

Nothing Matters, except YOU & Me Chapter

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The sound of cars honking from the back brought Heather back to her senses. Meanwhile, Matthias's voice rang out from the phone next to her ear. It was quite fortunate that he had

the patience of a saint and had not hung up the call despite her long silence.

Recently, she had become indecisive and found it very hard to say 'no'. She was no longer as

resolute and firm as before. Just then, Matthias sensed her hesitation and cleared his throat. Since she's not going to respond, then I'd better back off.

"If you don't want to help, I'll try to find a way by myself." He had no intention of making things difficult for her. After all, she had always been against the idea of him looking for Myra.

After remaining quiet for a long while, she finally replied, "Do you really have to talk things through with Myra? She's pregnant now, and I don't want this to affect her pregnancy."

Hearing this, he could tell that she was full of concern for Myra.

Although he was not surprised at all by her answer, this was something that had bothered him for quite some time now. He no longer had any feelings toward Myra, but he could not bring himself to brush off their past either.

"Do you have any other better suggestions? Do you think we should remain as strangers as it is? Someday, Myra's going to recall all this." Speaking of this, he suddenly remembered the

joke he once told Myra in the past.

"If I forget about you someday, you must try your best to make me remember. You mean a lot to me." Myra's words stuck to him even till now, and he didn't want to go against his words. Although she had probably meant that as a joke, he had taken it to heart. When Myra

said that, she definitely wasn't expecting herself to actually forget about him someday.

However, he linked the current situation with her previous words and was quite fixated on these very words she uttered.

"Don't appear in front of her. Or at least stay away for the time being because she can't take

all this right now, especially not in her current condition. After she's given birth and recovered, I won't stop you from seeing her and explaining everything." Heather tried hard to

make him act with common sense. She knew that he was not in the best condition right now and it seemed very likely that he would make a rash decision at any time.

On the other hand, Matthias kept his silence. Even though he knew she was being reasonable, he did not want to wait any longer. Why am I the one who's at fault right now? Why do I have to avoid appearing in front of Myra and hide from her like a fugitive just because the past has to be covered up?

"Give me some time to consider this," Matthias replied with hesitation.

Noticing this, she decided to add fuel to the fire. "Didn't you insist that I'm the one you loved? If so, why do you have to make Myra remember the past?" Heather tried to change the topic in hope that this could stop him from acting recklessly.

Matthias seemed overwhelmed by her questions. "Those are two separate things, so why are you bringing them up together?" In the end, he still felt that he was not at fault here. "Do you even understand women?" She had no choice but to explain this from a different perspective; she wanted him to realize that there was a problem in his train of thought and she didn't want him to insist on seeing Myra.

Hearing this, he was perplexed yet again. I'm indeed not too familiar with how women think.

However, he did not know how to respond to this question she had pointed out all of a sudden.

"You keep mentioning Myra in front of me and reminding me of your past with her.

Because

of that, I feel that your feelings for me aren't sincere. Shouldn't your thoughts be filled with the person you are infatuated with? I don't think it's right to be together with me while thinking of another woman at the same time." Without any hesitation, she blurted the words

that she'd never told him before in an attempt to convince him.

In fact, she found it difficult to express her feelings so openly, but at this point, she had resorted to it for Myra's sake. Just yesterday, I decided that I would not forgive him, but look

at how I'm calmly expressing my feelings to him right now! Thinking of this, Heather could not control the burst of anger she felt at the moment.

Matthias remained silent as he realized that she was right. Finally, he understood why she always had the notion that he was still in love with Myra.

"You should properly think this through. If you genuinely love me, show me your sincerity. I don't want you to go anywhere near Myra. Listen to me for just this once, alright?" Making use of his love confession toward her, Heather subtly nudged him into compromising. At the

same time, she had subconsciously chosen to follow Leon's suggestion.

Soon after that, Heather hung up the phone. Meanwhile, Matthias remained silent for quite some time after he hung up. He glanced at his cell phone but was at a loss of what to do. It was definitely time to discuss these problems with Evan. Since Heather had mentioned that he did not understand women, then the best way to overcome this was to talk to the person

he knew who understood the most about women—Evan.

"Evan, come over now," he ordered with a commandeering tone.

When Evan noticed his solemn expression, he wondered, Did something bad happen?

Worried, the former went up to the latter at once.

Matthias tried to come up with the words to say but failed, and this caused further anxiety for Evan. In the end, the latter asked, "Sir, is there anything I can do for you?" Right after saying that, he bowed politely. "I would be very pleased to offer my services." He enjoyed joking around with Matthias like this because he hoped that this could relieve some of the latter's tension.

However, Matthias' brows remained tightly furrowed and he looked quite torn. Seeing this, Evan was surprised. What could possibly cause him so much distress? Could it be Regan who's getting more and more arrogant day by day? Or could he be stressed because of

Heather? Evan could somewhat hazard a guess.

“Heather thinks that I haven’t gotten over Myra. She wants me to stop bothering Myra and show her my sincerity. Does she want me to prove my feelings for her by doing all these?” Finally, Matthias tentatively voiced his doubts. Despite feeling that these requests were unnecessary, he was also aware that women were more complicated in their train of thought, which he could not seem to comprehend.

“Sir, since she has already verbally confirmed this, what else are you confused about?” Evan was dumbfounded by Matthias’ question. Heather had obviously stated everything quite clearly, but the latter still doubted her meaning.

“I promised Myra that I would never let her forget about me.” Still, Matthias was quite insistent on this point. He reckoned that he had the perfect opportunity the last time to do as he had promised. After all, his past with Myra remained an important part of him. Feeling resigned, Evan shot a look at him. He’s quite smart when handling all the business dealings, but why is he so ignorant when it comes to relationships? He’s quite dense about everything.

“Heather’s actually a prideful person, but for her to say all this to you, you must mean something to her too. As such, you should not disappoint her this time. Otherwise, you might not get another chance of getting close to her.” Upon realizing Matthias’s ignorance, Evan began to worry that he seemed to be treading on thin ice with each step he took. Naturally, it made sense for Heather to reject him.

Evan’s tone of voice and his words made everything sound so serious. Matthias was at a complete loss for what to do, so he subsequently described what happened earlier to Evan. After listening to him, Evan thought to himself, If you weren’t the one paying my salary, I would only have four words for you: You are completely hopeless! Recently, he had been quite anxious about Matthias’ relationship woes. The former realized that the latter—being such a blockhead in his relationship—was definitely a torment for his potential partner.

“You don’t understand women at all. I’ve said all I can, so you need to figure out the rest of it

yourself.” Evan felt frustrated after spending so much time explaining to him. What is going on in his head anyway? It’s so frustrating talking to him!

Noticing this, Matthias looked at Evan with an incredulous expression. Why is he so frustrated? I don’t think I did anything over the top. I’ve let go of my ego and gone after Heather with a humble attitude. Look at how she’s been treating me in comparison! Therefore, he had doubts about whether to persevere in his effort.

While Evan had always insisted that Heather had feelings for him, he could not seem to sense it. He felt that she was always keeping a distance from him and he was hurt by it. At this moment, another unexpected incident happened all of a sudden. Robert, who must be up to something, rang up to talk to him out of the blue.

Matthias glanced at the caller ID on his phone and was quite confused, but he hastily answered the call. Right away, Robert’s voice rang out, “Matthias, we haven’t completed our

discussion about our collaboration. If it isn’t a bother, could you come over today?”

The sudden display of affection by Robert took him aback. At the same time, he saw a ray of hope at that very instance. If I’m an esteemed guest at the Langston Residence, then surely

I

would have more chances of seeing Heather. Being able to see her more often would be beneficial in the progress of our relationship!

“Sure, I can drop by anytime. I’ve actually got all the information ready.” After Matthias had returned from the Langstons the last time, he had immediately compiled all the information needed within that night.

“Then just come over right now.” In fact, Robert knew that Heather was on her way back home and there was not anyone else at home this time of the day. Therefore, he planned to get her to serve Matthias and they could spend time together to build up their relationship.

“Sure,” Matthias agreed immediately; he was anxious to prove his worth to Robert. After all, Robert meant a lot to Heather and Evan had taught him before to win the favor of everyone she cared for.

Subsequently, he brought along a stack of documents and made his way to the Langstons. The white suit he was dressed in further accentuated his milky-white skin and made him look younger than his age. Overall, he appeared energetic and full of vigor.

As he drove to the Langstons, he recalled all of his encounters with Heather. Without even realizing it, he found that he had arrived at the courtyard of the Langston Residence.

Meanwhile, Heather wasn’t surprised to see Matthias show up. Robert had been so obvious in his intentions, and she had no choice but to allow it. However, she was still mindful of their unhappy conversation earlier so she did not even bother to greet him as soon as she saw him.

Meanwhile, Robert was unaware of their tiff and simply assumed that she was unhappy because he had invited Matthias over. Throughout their meeting, her face looked stormy.

“Come with me to the study room,” Robert mentioned to Matthias.

As for Heather, she took a seat by the side and kept a low profile. The two men stood up, one after the other, but she remained in her seat, not intending to join them in the study room.

“Heather, come along too.” Robert did not know what Matthias had done to offend her as such. She seems to be quite against him today.

“You guys can go ahead and talk about work. I’m not interested in joining the discussion,” Heather politely rejected. I’m no longer working for Langston Group, so this has got nothing to do with me. Blake should be the one to be involved.

“Heather, I need your insight too,” Robert spoke in an insistent tone.

Left with no choice, she trailed along with them. At the same time, she maintained a distance from Matthias and her rejection toward him was obvious. Matthias didn’t expect to

see this soft, feminine side of her; he was also quite surprised that she was actually throwing a tantrum because all this while, despite being mad at him, she would normally just give him the cold shoulder.

If Robert was not around, he would have directly gone to her and talked things through. But unfortunately, this was not possible with the three of them being in the same room. He eagerly helped Robert push the door open, trying hard to depict himself as an agile person of the younger generation. After all, the former was not in tip-top condition lately, so he was

expecting that his eager action would win the former's favor.

Standing on the side, Heather watched Matthias's overly eager action with a cold expression. What does he intend to achieve by intentionally performing in front of Grandpa?

Besides, the Locke Family has links to the Moriarty Family too. Heather hadn't made up her mind whether to inform Robert about this. After all, if Matthias was well-aware of everything,

then they would have brought chaos upon themselves.

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It was early in the afternoon. Rays of sunshine shone through the drawn shades, dimly lighting up the study room. The atmosphere at the Langstons was quite lively with the noises of children playing with each other in the lounge. While it was fortunate to be surrounded by so many younger generations, Robert somehow felt that something was amiss.

They entered the room and then silently shut the door behind them. Meanwhile, Matthias directed his gaze at Heather, and his eyes blurred together just then. After that, Robert switched on the light and the whole room immediately became illuminated, thereupon Heather's face appeared clearly in front of Matthias.

"Take a seat." Robert made himself comfortable on a chaise as he invited them to sit, his hands carrying the information provided by Matthias. The former put on his reading glasses because the words on the paper were just too tiny for him to decipher. As for Heather, she casually took a seat on a bronze-colored wooden chair, and to her annoyance, Matthias swiftly took the seat next to her. Seeing this, she furrowed her brows in response.

Matthias then directed a warm smile toward her, but she chose to ignore him; she had no intention of talking to him. Nevertheless, she was preoccupied with her thoughts regarding the Lockes' relationship with the Moriartys. Matthias is the current leader of the family, so it's not possible for him to be unaware of that matter.

She contemplated whether it was necessary to feel him out. I won't be able to obtain the information I'm after if I keep ignoring him. Due to Robert's presence in the study room, she

couldn't get close to Matthias so they could only look at each other and communicate silently with the occasional eye contact.

Initially, she avoided his eyes and her expression clearly revealed her displeasure toward him. Nonetheless, slowly, she suppressed the disgust she felt and met his eyes a couple of times.

As for Matthias, he also tried hard to convey his feelings through his expression; he hoped that she could look at things from his point of view. Gradually, her expression softened.

Clearly, both of them needed some private time to talk things through, face-to-face.

After a while, he took out his cell phone and tapped on his screen, and Heather heard the 'ping' sound indicating a notification on her messenger system shortly after. She tapped to open it and evidently, it was him who'd sent her the message.

'Would you like to join me for dinner tonight?' He extended an invitation to her. After she had

seen the text, she switched off her phone without giving a reply.

Next to her, Matthias saw her series of actions and stared at her with a resigned look on his face. All of a sudden, he saw her give a subtle nod; it was merely an inconspicuous movement of her head.

Just like that, Matthias could not control his glee. He tried hard to suppress the happiness bubbling in him and revealed a slight smile. However, she did not even bother to cast her eyes on him thereafter. After that, he could not help wishing that time would pass by faster so that he could have some private time with her soon. Nonetheless, Robert had not made his decision yet, so there was nothing else Matthias could do but wait anxiously.

Unbeknownst to him, Robert was quietly observing all of his and Heather's subtle actions. The time passed by quite slowly. Matthias had never felt time go by as slow. As for Heather, she maintained a cool composure by his side. Although she'd agreed to have dinner with him, she was still trying to figure out how to glean information from him later on.

Her motive was simple—to figure out the exact relationship between the Lockes and the Moriartys and to find out exactly how much information Matthias possessed. On one hand, she hoped that he would have some insider news so she would not have to get too close to the Lockes; on the other hand, she hoped that he had nothing to do with the Moriartys.

After

all, if he was in cahoots with them, then their collaboration would not be possible and the Langstons would have another enemy to watch out for.

Staring at his face intently, she wondered if this man could be trusted. As far as things went, for now, he had been quite open and frank in his behavior. Besides, he had also mentioned that he had provoked Hart Group solely because he wanted to replace Hart Group as Bradford City's top-performing corporation.

After all, it was inevitable to become rivals in the corporate world. Most of the time, it was quite hard to distinguish between friends and foes. Firstly, Hart Group was not part of Langton Group's allies. Next, Heather was also clearly aware that she had no say in this matter. Furthermore, Langston Group had previously intended to wait and reap the benefits

without putting in the effort.

If it wasn't for the sudden appearance of the Moriartys, the situation in Bradford City would not have become so complicated. As such, if the Lockes were secretly in cahoots with the Moriartys, then the whole situation would become unfavorable for the Langstons and the Harts.

Disregarding the fact that it was very rare for the Harts to cooperate with the Langstons, but

even if they did, their collaboration might not be comparable to the joint efforts of the Lockes and Moriartys. Everyone was fully aware of what the Langstons and Harts owned because their business dealings were rather transparent. They were proper, reputable business enterprises after all.

Meanwhile, the Lockes and the Moriartys were different. The Moriartys were very mysterious and no one seemed to be able to identify their actual business dealings. As for the Lockes, they had a hidden side in their corporation that actually touched on the gray side

of the law. If the Lockes made use of their hidden influence, then they could definitely plan a

a

surprise attack behind their rivals' backs.

Therefore, in order to get to know in detail the Locke family's dealings, Heather had to maintain her position as Matthias' girlfriend. Not only that, but Leon had also mentioned to her that Matthias' family was pestering him to get into a relationship because their family had a golden rule specifying that each member had to marry by the age of thirty. Since Matthias was nearing his thirties soon, he would have to get married before that.

The elders of the family had introduced a few women to Matthias, but he'd rejected each of

them. Now that Heather was officially in a relationship with him, she would obviously be invited over to the Locke Residence; this would be her chance to find out more information and get closer to the other members of the family. By then, it would be easier for her to identify the person who was working with the Moriartys.

After figuring out the whole process, the only thing left was to put this plan into action. The Moriartys were currently keeping a low profile and not making any moves; hence, the only method now was to tackle things from the Lockes' side. Moreover, she reckoned that it was much more comfortable to be in a relationship with Matthias than with Caleb.

From all the years ever since entering the society, she'd never made such a huge sacrifice. Moreover, she had never wanted to sully a past relationship and was quite reluctant to be a despicable person who toyed with one's feelings. However, the circumstances right now gave her no choice at all as she no longer had the time to consider things carefully. In fact, her grand-aunt, Claris, had lost her life back then because of a similar incident.

Despite knowing that times had changed and it was no longer possible to lose a life from something like this, the consequences of everything on Langston Group and the Langston family were serious and it was very likely that this could lead to the destruction of everything they owned. Although she did not like everyone in the family except for Robert, she also cared for the company that the latter had put so much effort into throughout the decades.

Just then, Heather had basically figured out all the insider news and everything that had happened in the past. Because of that, she could not help feeling worried. At the same time,

she finally understood Robert's anxiety.

However, she silently cheered for herself multiple times to boost her self-esteem, and Leon's

words appeared in her mind on and off. The current situation reminded her of her first interview ever—she seemed calm on the outside but on the inside, she was anxious beyond words—and her current feelings were just about the same.

At this moment, she recalled her younger, immature self but quickly recollected her senses and tried to overlook the messy situation. I need to figure out my own intentions. There's really no point in being so indecisive because once I start to waver, things will surely turn out a mess too.

All of a sudden, Robert, who had been going through the documents for quite some time, finally said something. His aged voice sounded raspy as he spoke, "Matthias, your proposal is very sincere." Although it was just a simple sentence, it was enough to calm Matthias' nervousness.

After all, he had single-handedly compiled all the information provided to Robert, and it was

prepared concisely. Being the one in charge of the Locke Group, he knew the whole corporation like the back of his hands.

“How do you plan to implement our collaboration?” Nonetheless, even though the information provided was concise, the details of the collaboration were not specified.

“I’ll bring the proposal over tomorrow.” In fact, Matthias had already prepared everything and

only needed to make a few amendments once he got home. If he pulled an all-nighter later, then he definitely would be able to have it ready by the next day.

Robert smiled in response. Looks like he’s very keen on working together with us. He’s quite

sincere about it. The proposal he mentioned would have taken some time to prepare; he must have prepared everything in advance to be able to produce it by tomorrow. Thinking of

this, he was quite pleased with Matthias’ attitude.

Ultimately, he preferred Matthias as Heather’s other half, instead of Caleb. Between the two,

the former was the best candidate out of all the people he had met so far.

There was also Lucas who’d visited them before, and Robert had obtained all of his background information from a private investigator. His family background was incomparable to the Moriartys. Furthermore, even the Harts had nothing against the Moriartys, so the Lockes were their only hope left. After all, the Lockes’ were quite powerful

and should not be taken lightly.

In the interim, Heather and Matthias sat next to each other under the flickering light. As Robert looked across the room, he found that the two of them looked like a great match. Heather was his darling granddaughter after all, and no one else in this world knew her better than he did. Evidently, he could tell that she had feelings for Matthias, but there were

just way too many factors that made things complicated between them. As such, it hindered

their relationship progress.

Although he was merely aware of their most recent tiff, he would definitely understand her complicated feelings for Matthias if he were to learn about everything that had happened in

the past.

Meanwhile, in the study room, Matthias was deeply engrossed in his conversation with Robert. As for Heather, she sat quietly without expressing her opinion, which was quite unlike her. Robert shot her multiple questioning looks, but she maintained her impassive expression without responding to him. Though he was tempted to chide her, he chose not to

do so in front of Matthias.

Instead, he enjoyed himself talking to Matthias until a slight knock on the door from outside

interrupted their conversation. "What's the matter?" His voice turned shriller as he asked the person on the other side of the door.

The butler's voice rang out inaudibly from behind the door due to the good soundproof system in the study room. Impatiently, Robert indicated for him to enter the room. As soon as the latter entered, the vibe in the whole room changed all at once.

He walked forward to stand in front of Robert before saying politely, "Master, I'm here to confirm tonight's menu with you." Earlier, Heather had instructed the kitchen staff to prepare

some special dishes for their guest. Everyone knew that Robert paid particular attention to the said guest, so the kitchen had purposely brought in the menu for Robert's perusal before

they started preparing dinner.

Just then, Heather took advantage of Robert's preoccupation with the menu to talk to Matthias. "It looks like Grandpa will keep you here for dinner."

Recalling his invitation earlier, she could not help curling her lips into a smirk. I know Grandpa's plan. He wants everyone in the family to realize Matthias' importance.

From then on, this would further cement the fact that Matthias and Heather were in a relationship. As most of the Langston family members were not aware of the collaboration between the Langstons and the Lockes, Robert intended to make use of their mouths to spread the word out to the public.

Usually, she loathed being taken advantage of, but this time, it was done by her grandpa, who doted on her the most. Therefore, she accepted it willingly. Perhaps, it was also because she knew that there was no other way to handle this. Anyway, there was no harm in

going along with Robert's way either. After all, she was well aware that he merely wanted her

to avoid the same tragedy that happened in the past.

Overall, this was all due to Robert's wariness against the Moriartys. He had already planned in advance to seek protection for Heather and this could only be because he had no confidence in their family. If the same thing happened again, they would remain on the losing end; he had chosen to give in back then—in order to protect their family—but this time, he would no longer allow this to happen. He would do all he could to prevent the Moriartys from getting their way.

After Robert confirmed the menu, he pushed the bridge of his reading glasses and said to Matthias, "Stay for dinner tonight."