

This Time, I Will Get My Divorce, Mr Chapter 902

Chapter 902 Who You Were Meant to Be

For some reason, although he was saddled with regrets and felt somewhat sorry for his mother, he was relieved by his change of character.

His mother was proud of the Toby Fuller of the past and had everyone singing praises for him. However, this only gave the old Toby a lot of pressure. No one knew he disliked his past self as he felt his mother was not looking at him, but rather, looking at someone else through him.

“Just as I expected.” Sonia sighed sorrowfully after listening to the man’s words.

Sensing a vague premonition, Toby lifted Sonia’s chin, forcing her to meet his eyes. “Just as you expected? Did something happen for you to bring up my past character so abruptly?”

This man is still as perceptive as ever. Sonia’s red lips twitched a little before she bit her lip and uttered a response. “Toby, the truth is... I was reminded of how you were the moment I met Connor Salzburg today.”

“Huh?” Toby frowned.

Sonia took a deep breath before explaining herself, “Looking at Connor was just like looking at how you were in the past, that gentle and graceful boy in white. Do you know that Connor and you give off the same kind of energy? You two are so much alike, not in terms of your looks, but in the way you two expressed yourselves as well as your personalities. Naturally, I’m comparing Connor to your past self since how you are right now is completely different from him. How you were in the past is almost identical to Connor. It’s not even a stretch to say that the two of you were one and the same person. Do you understand me when I put it this way?”

She fixed her gaze at him after her explanation.

His character was exactly the same as Connor’s. To put it more bluntly, someone had intentionally developed his character to be just like Connor’s. And that person was his own mother.

The reason why he thought of his mother was because of Sonia’s question on the person who had developed his past character. With the fact that she told him that his past character was exactly the same as Connor’s, everything fell into place in his head.

Toby was not a foolish person, which was why it was not impossible for him to read between the lines of what Sonia was saying. It was because he understood Sonia that he blanked out with his body tensing up once more at this moment.

Clenching his fists tightly, Toby fixed his gaze on Sonia before asking in a somewhat trembling and hoarse tone, "What are you saying? Connor Salzburg is just like how I was in the past?"

Toby had only ever seen pictures of Connor and had never met the man in person. Although he had heard talks about how Connor's character was and how Connor treated others, thoughts of himself being similar to Connor had never crossed his mind, nor did anyone mention this to him. Thus, it was no surprise why Toby never knew how similar he was to Connor.

Looking at Toby, who was clearly starting to get agitated, Sonia nodded reluctantly even though she knew that it would be hard on the man right now. "Yes."

After all, he grew up according to what his mother wanted. In order for him to fulfill her wishes, he gave up on his ideal personality and grew into the character his mother wanted.

Everything he did, he did for his mother.

However, the end result of Toby's actions was for him to be told by another that the reason why his mother had raised him in this way was not because of her fondness for a gentle and warm child, but because she wanted to realize her longing for another man through him.

Anyone in his position would feel turmoil in their heart. Even more so for a man as prideful as Toby. Toby lowered his head slightly and stayed silent, as he did not wish for others to witness his expression in this instance.

Nevertheless, Sonia noticed from the cold air Toby was exuding that he was angry and extremely furious, but she did not know who was the target of his anger.

Was it Connor, Sonia herself, or... his own mother?

After some time had passed, Toby abruptly lifted his head and revealed a pair of bloodshot eyes. Though his voice became hoarse by the minute while filled with indications that he was holding himself back, he said, "I need some time to calm down."

Sonia knew that he was feeling awful at this moment as various emotions would no doubt spring inside him. Should he choose not to calm himself down here, troubles would no doubt appear further down the road. With such thoughts, Sonia nodded to Toby. "Alright, then I'll return to my room for now."

“No need.” Toby grabbed Sonia’s hand to stop her from getting up. “I’ll head over to the study.”

Saying that, he released his grip on her hand before standing up himself and leaving for the study. Even in such a moment when his heart was in turmoil, the man had not asked her to take a step back, but rather chose to take a step back himself.

This man is really...

As Sonia watched Toby’s usually tall and straight back become somewhat hunched at this moment, she felt a vague sense of unpleasantness and felt her heart aching inside with her eyes filled with pain for the man.

The birth of one person was the end of another. For the prideful man—that was looked up to by others and even caused others to feel inferior to him—to be hunching like this would be a shock to anyone.

Furthermore, the person that had brought the man into this state was none other than his mother, whom he had great respect for. Although the reason for his birth was his mother’s desire for freedom, Toby still loved her and respected her. Yet, he had never considered that his mother—who had always treated him well and loved him dearly so—had mixed her motherly love for him with such impure desires.

His own mother wanted a gentle and warm child merely because the person she loved was a gentle and warm person. Just because she could not meet with her beloved, she molded her own son to be exactly like her beloved. It was all so that she could use her son to relieve her longing for her lover.

Was it really appropriate for a mother to treat her own son as a stand-in for her lover? Toby knew precisely that he was a substitute for Connor, which was why his back was hunched now.

Every person in this world was unique and should not be taken as a substitute for anyone else. However, regardless of how firm and upright his posture usually was, it was expected for someone as prideful as Toby Fuller—who had unknowingly become someone’s substitute—to be hunching his back after being dealt such a blow, especially since it was not an enemy but his beloved and revered mother who dealt such a fatal blow to him.

Oftentimes, the most painful wounds a person could have was not dealt by their enemies, but by the people closest to them. Sonia’s eyes reddened at such thoughts.

As she clenched her fists, she stood up instantly and shouted at Toby, “Toby Fuller!”

With his hand on the door handle, Toby was already by the entrance of the room and was about to open the door to leave at this point. After Sonia called out to him, he stopped in his tracks but showed no other reaction aside from staying silent.

Wearing a serious expression, she stared at the back of the man before saying, "Toby Fuller, there's something I've never told you all this time. Truthfully, I have always regretted the fact that you've not reverted into that gentle Toby Fuller."

Toby was stunned at her words with his eyes turning into a deep shade of crimson red by the seconds. What does she mean by that? She wants me to continue being a stand-in for Connor Salzburg?

Just when he was about to turn around and question her, Sonia continued, "However, I no longer have such regrets. Instead, I'm glad that you did not revert into that Toby Fuller. I know now that the past you weren't the real you. Although the way you are now was formed by way of hypnosis, you were the one that chose this; no one else influenced you in this. Perhaps the current you is the real you, and perhaps this is your ideal character. That's why I'm happy right now, and I'm happy for you. Congratulations, Toby Fuller. You have finally returned to being who you were meant to be!"

Before Sonia knew the reason for his personality, she felt that it was such a pity for Toby to have not returned to how he was in the past. After all, she loved how gentle he was. Who wouldn't be fond of that gentle and graceful boy dressed in that white shirt of his?

Nevertheless, now that she knew the origins of his gentle personality, she no longer felt that it was a pity.

Moreover, she felt slightly grateful for Tina to have found Miles to hypnotize Toby, where it had indirectly aided Toby into becoming his true self once more.

This Time, I Will Get My Divorce, Mr Chapter 903

Chapter 903 Sonia's Reassurance

After Sonia's explanation, Toby widened his eyes before turning around abruptly. Though his eyes were still red from anger, his pupils were trembling. He was agitated and elated over what Sonia had said.

Toby thought that Sonia was lamenting on why he wouldn't continue being Connor's substitute, and on why he wouldn't turn back into that gentle Toby Fuller. He felt a surge of anger rising and wanted to question her if she really liked his past self to the extent of asking him to be just a stand-in.

If his mother had raised him purely without basing it on her own preference, and Sonia chose to like the past him, at most, he would be slightly upset, but would not be angry about it. The reason being, that would still be the real him.

However, his past self was molded in the shape of Connor. How could Toby accept this should Sonia prefer his past self over the present him? It would be as if she had never loved him and had only ever loved the illusion of his character.

Fortunately, her words after that completely quelled his anger.

It turned out that Sonia loved not the illusion of his character, but his true self—who he really was on the inside. Why else would Sonia say that she was glad that Toby did not return to how he was before?

That was because Sonia knew Toby was not just a substitute for Connor. He was Toby Fuller; he was his own person. He should have had his own personality that was untainted by another person.

And so, Sonia congratulated him on turning back into who he was meant to be.

After Sonia congratulated him, Toby couldn't hold back his elation and agitation any longer. He took swift steps toward Sonia and tightly embraced her in his arms. With how tight his embrace was, it was as if he wanted to merge with her into becoming one person.

"Sonia... Sonia... Sonia!" Toby leaned his head on her shoulder and continued crying out her name. Each cry of his was filled with heavy emotions. It was just as heavy as the tone of his voice.

Looking at the man, Sonia knew the reason for the man's agitation.

It was because of what she said.

She clearly knew the influence her words would have on him.

When the man found out that he was just a substitute that was fostered by his mother, he would subconsciously question his own existence, questioning whether he should've been born into this world.

To be born into this world, yet denied from being his own person. To not be able to be his true self but just somebody else's stand-in. Thus, a sense of disgust was born inside of the man. As a result, he rejected his own existence.

However, Sonia's words were an acknowledgment of his existence. She was telling him that there was a meaning for him to be here in this world and that he wasn't just a stand-in for somebody else.

He was his own person. He was Toby Fuller.

Naturally, Toby got agitated by her words and rushed to embrace her in joy.

"That's enough now." Sonia smiled while patting Toby's back before she softly said, "You should let go of me first. I can't breathe properly with how tightly you're hugging me."

Toby lessened his strength in his embrace, but did not release her from his embrace as he continued to hold her in his arms. At this moment, he couldn't do so. It was only by holding her in his arms could he believe that what he just heard was true.

Sonia felt amused and helpless as she could feel Toby being reluctant to break their embrace. The gap between a usually independent, distant man and a man who was clinging onto her like a child now was indeed amusing to her.

Fine. I should just let it be if he wants to continue hugging me.

Since Sonia was no longer asking for the man to let go of her and had decided to allow the man to continue hugging her, she continued patting his back and comforted him. "Don't worry. No matter what happens, you'll have me by your side. Not only me, but Grandma, Jean, and even Tyler are by your side as well. We all know that you are your own person, and not just another person's substitute."

Although she did not want to mention Jean, she had to bear her aversion for Jean and mention Jean's name in order to comfort the man.

At this point, Toby was still quiet and had buried his head right at Sonia's neck. He only muffled a sound as an indication that he was listening and would take her words into mind. And so, Sonia did not say anything more, and the two of them stayed silent as they continued to be in each other's arms.

It was only when Sonia's phone rang did Toby reluctantly release her.

She took out her phone and smiled when she saw the caller ID. "It's Mrs. Lane. She's probably calling to ask what you like to eat so that she can prepare them for tonight's dinner."

After Toby took a glance at the caller ID, his emotions became much better. "Answer her. I'll leave for the study first."

Toby still needed to take time to calm himself down. Though Sonia had said much and somewhat comforted him, he still needed to think about certain things himself. After all, it was his own mother. He—as her son—needed to process what his own mother had done to him.

Sonia understood where Toby was coming from, which was why she had not objected when Toby wanted to leave for the study, and instead nodded in agreement. However, she believed that he would take no time at all in the study after the encouragement she gave. That was why she was relieved even though Toby was going to process things by himself at this time.

“Go ahead. I’ll call you when it’s time for lunch,” Sonia said while looking at Toby.

With a slight nod, Toby turned around and left for the study.

Sonia then called Mrs. Lane back after watching Toby enter the study. Due to Sonia watching Toby intently, the ringing had stopped as she did not answer the call even after some time had passed. Now, she had to call her back instead.

After Toby entered the study and closed the door, he stood with his back against the door and closed his eyes slightly as he pinched the bridge of his nose. He wore an expression that was full of fatigue—both physically and mentally.

He’d always thought that although he was born for the purpose of his mother’s freedom, his mother still loved him, and that her love for him was pure and untainted by any other feelings. Yet, he only found out now just how wrong he was.

His mother did love him, but it was not just a simple mother’s love. At the very least, he would never be able to reach Connor’s position in his mother’s heart.

For the sake of Connor, his mother nurtured him into the likes of Connor. In her heart, as long as she could relieve her longing for her lover, whether or not her son had a character of his own did not matter. Even so, in order to make his mother happy and not disappoint her, he still tried his best in becoming someone gentle even when he disliked it.

It was all because his mother liked it.

He knew that his mother was unhappy about getting married to his father, which was why Toby chose to become someone he didn’t like in order to make his mother happy. Yet, everything was just a lie in the end. It was all a lie!

Toby hung his head with both his hands clenched into fists. Due to how hard he was clenching his hands, his arms trembled slightly with his veins bulged. The air around him turned frightfully cold.

Toby had not doubted Sonia's words and even believed her instantly. In the past, he would always have the suspicion of his mother looking at someone else through him, but he never had any proof for his suspicion and thought that he was mistaken.

Yet, he realized that he wasn't wrong with his suspicion the moment Sonia said that his past self was just like Connor. His mother was looking at someone else through him as Toby was specifically nurtured to be the substitute for Connor.

Just a stand-in!

This was a mockery to Toby.

To think he, Toby Fuller, the head of the Fullers, would one day be someone else's stand-in.

And that someone else might even be his father's murderer!

He couldn't forgive his mother's actions. Although he would still give her his respect, he would no longer give her his love. After all, no one would be able to accept just being a stand-in for someone else, much less him, Toby Fuller.

Nevertheless, he did not care anymore. Neither the fact that his mother treated him as a substitute and never fully treated him as her son nor loved her son with all of her heart mattered anymore. Now, even without his mother, there were other people who truly loved him.

Little Leaf, and Grandma, they both love me a lot.

After Little Leaf knew that how he was before was specifically nurtured according to someone else, she immediately let go of her fond memories of his past self and accepted the current him.

This sentiment of hers was enough for him to remember her for the rest of his life.

This Time, I Will Get My Divorce, Mr Chapter 904

Chapter 904 Wanting to Take Action Regardless of Everything Else

Speaking of Grandma...

Thinking of his grandma, Toby suddenly remembered how surprised and relieved Rose was when she first saw him six years ago.

Six years ago, he had just finished his heart surgery and was getting ready to fulfill his promise with Little Leaf for a meeting. Yet, just before he could do so, he was hypnotized by Miles.

After the hypnotism, there was a drastic change in Toby's personality. His warm, gentle personality was replaced by coldness and indifference.

After his change in personality, Toby clearly remembered that there was something nagging at him when he first met Rose. That nagging he felt was how Rose was surprised over his change in personality yet never questioned him about it.

Normally, wouldn't someone ask in a panic about the reason for such a drastic change in personality? To ask the person whether something had happened in their life?

However, Rose did not. After a moment of being taken by surprise, she immediately held Toby's hand and wouldn't stop telling him that it was a good thing for this to happen.

At the time, tears welled up in Rose's reddened eyes. He knew that those tears were from her emotions of joy. Although he couldn't understand why Rose reacted that way at the time, he knew better now. Perhaps Rose already knew the truth behind his old personality—how his personality was nurtured by his mother to be just like Connor's.

That was why Rose was relieved by the change in his personality and had told him repeatedly that it was a good thing for him. But a few months back, when he had somewhat returned to how he was in the past after that car accident, Rose's eyes were filled with anxiousness, though she herself said nothing at all.

He always thought that the anxiousness Rose had then was due to the injuries he sustained from the car accident. Looking back on it now, perhaps her anxiousness stemmed from the possibility of him turning back into how he was before, and that he would return to his old self. Clearly, she did not wish for Toby to return to being a stand-in for Connor.

Rose's thoughts were the same as Sonia's, which was why he could say with certainty that both his grandmother and Sonia loved him.

As long as they were with him and always filled him with their love, he could stop rejecting himself and doubting himself over being made into a stand-in. Furthermore, he would no longer need to care about what his mother's thoughts were or his mother's love tainted by other feelings.

Now, he could let go of his feelings for his mother as there were people that truly and sincerely cared about him. Naturally, though he overcame his doubts and wouldn't hold

any grudges against his mother since she was ultimately the one who gave birth to him, he would never forgive Connor.

Absolutely not!

The true master?

I will let Connor know that no one else in this world is the true master of the Fuller Family!

With his fists clenched tightly, Toby was filled with bloodlust as his eyes turned crimson red. At this moment, his phone in his pocket rang. With the ringing of his phone having somewhat dispersed the stifling air in the room, Toby loosened his fists and took his phone out.

Seeing that it was his assistant, Tom, calling, he walked over to his desk and answered the phone. "What is it?" He sounded indifferent.

"President Fuller, bad news. Connor Salzburg is in Seafield." Tom's tone was laced with stress on the other end of the line.

Toby murmured in assent. "Yes, I already know of it." He pulled out a chair and sat down.

Tom was shocked by his president's reply. "You knew?"

Toby pursed his lips. "He was here for Little Leaf. It was Little Leaf who told me about it."

Tom immediately understood his president's explanation. "So that's what happened when you took the phone call from Miss Reed back in the conference room."

Back then, Tom was also present in the conference room and was also aware of Sonia's phone call to Toby. After all, Toby's phone was with him at the time as he was responsible for his phone, which was why he would be the first to know of any incoming phone calls. If it was somebody else that had called, he would have immediately ended the call and wouldn't have notified his president as Toby hated answering calls during a meeting.

But Sonia was the exception.

That was why when Tom saw it was Sonia calling, he immediately passed the phone to Toby. Sure enough, Toby answered the call without any hesitation. When Toby did, his face wore a gentle expression that gave everyone in the conference room goosebumps and shocked them to the bones.

Tom had initially thought that the others in the room would see his president's humble side as Toby would try to please Sonia through the phone. After all, Tom knew that men would bend over backward to please their lovers once they fell in love. Not even the great Toby Fuller could escape this love spell.

Just by looking at how Toby was grinning from ear to ear when he knew that it was Sonia on the phone, Tom knew that his president would bend over backward for Sonia.

However, contrary to Tom's expectation, the others in the room did not witness his president's side of trying to please Sonia, but saw his president's expression going through a drastic change while staying silent. Right after Toby ended the call, he grabbed his jacket and left the conference room in a hurry. Recalling how dark his president's expression looked, it still frightened him greatly until now.

As Toby's assistant, Tom should have left with him as well. However, he stayed back and continued to chair the meeting as it was still ongoing. That was why Tom was in the dark about what Sonia had told Toby for Toby's expression to change that much and for him to be that angry.

He assumed that Sonia might have gotten into some trouble, such as being involved in some sort of accident. However, he realized now that it was the news of Connor Salzburg arriving in Seafield, and that the man had even gone to meet Sonia.

Toby firmly believed that Connor was his father's murderer, while Sonia was someone that had a special place in Toby's heart.

It was to be expected for Toby to undergo such a change the moment he heard of the two meeting. With his anger mixed with his worries over Sonia, Toby naturally couldn't sit still and left the room in a hurry.

After figuring out the incident back at the conference room, Tom hurriedly asked with concern, "President Fuller, is Miss Reed alright? Did Connor harm Miss Reed?"

"No." Toby shook his head slightly. Should Connor dare touch a single hair on Sonia, Toby would go to war with the Salzburg Family regardless of any national laws, let alone thinking about the numerous people that would be made jobless and homeless by his action.

He only wanted the death of Connor.

If not for the national laws, the hundreds of thousands of employees under the Fuller Group, and the innocent employees under the Salzburg Group, Toby would not hold himself back and would use any means necessary to question Connor on whether Connor was his father's murderer. Who wouldn't break down under illegal means of interrogation, right?

However, there was still kindness in him. He knew that if he had done what he thought of doing, there would be war between the Fuller Family and the Salzburg Family. Once the fight between the two families broke out, the employees of the two groups would end up bearing the brunt. When that time came, many would choose to end their life as they would lose their means of living.

Although the employees meant little to the cold and distant Toby, the sense of responsibility and morals instilled within him since young prevented him from doing so. Else, he would have gotten his revenge a long time ago.

“Good thing he didn’t.” Tom sighed in relief after hearing his president’s answer. Here, Tom was not nervous about Sonia but his own president instead. He knew how much Toby cared about Sonia, and that Toby would go crazy should anything happen to her.

“By the way, how did you find out that Connor is in Seafield?” Toby asked with his eyes narrowed in suspicion, as he did not disclose this information to anyone else. “Did he come by the Fuller Group?” he speculated.

Tom immediately shook his head. “That’s not it, President Fuller. Connor did not come to the Fuller Group. I was notified by the police that Connor went to the police station half an hour ago to meet with Anya.”

“So that’s how you knew.” Toby slightly nodded. He was not surprised by the fact that Connor went to the police station. Anya is Connor’s daughter, and is the only reason he came to Seafield. There’s no way he wouldn’t go meet her.

This Time, I Will Get My Divorce, Mr Chapter 905

Chapter 905 They Might Not Be Father and Daughter

Toby pinched his nose while asking in a grave tone, “What happened after that? Has there been any updates from the police? What did they say?”

Tom shook his head. “Sorry, President Fuller, but there’s no update regarding this. According to the police, Connor asked to meet Anya alone when he went. The police couldn’t comply with his request to let Anya off, but Connor is one of the city’s biggest taxpayers, so the police wouldn’t turn down such a small request. Therefore, the police had no idea what they had talked about during their private meeting. But...”

“Shoot!” Toby frowned in displeasure.

Tom hemmed. Not daring to tarry, he hurriedly continued, “The police officer who took Connor to see Anya gave us a strange piece of information. He said that judging from

Connor and Anya's manner toward each other, they didn't seem like father and daughter; instead, they seemed more like a superior and his subordinate."

"Oh?" Toby stopped pinching his nose as suspicion showed on his face. "A superior and his subordinate?"

"That's what the police officer said, but I don't know the details. I didn't see it myself, after all," Tom replied seriously.

Toby rubbed his thumb and forefinger together a few times. "Did he explain in detail why they seemed not like father and daughter, but like a superior and his subordinate?"

"He did." Tom nodded. "According to him, when Connor saw Anya, his face didn't show the slightest excitement or joy of seeing his daughter. Even if he wasn't happy, he should've been angry, right? After all, now that his daughter had gotten into such big trouble, he should've been exasperated and disappointed as a father. But Connor looked neither happy nor angry. When he saw Anya, he looked very imperturbable, as if Anya weren't his daughter but someone unrelated to him."

"Is that so..." Toby mumbled thoughtfully while lowering his eyes. Then, he asked, "What about Anya, then?"

"Anya was strange, too. When she saw Connor, she didn't react like she was meeting her father; she didn't look happy at all. A daughter should've been excited and overjoyed to see her father come to save her, right? But she wasn't. When she saw Connor, she was only terrified."

"Terrified?"

Tom nodded. "That's right. I've confirmed it repeatedly, and the police officer insisted that she looked terrified. People in their line of work would've seen all kinds of people, so there was no way he would've misread her expression."

What Tom said was indeed true, so Toby didn't ask any further. After a while, he finally said, "Go on."

"Yes, President Fuller." Tom continued, "Anya was terrified of Connor from the bottom of her heart. According to the police officer, Connor had probably done something to her before, which was why she was so terrified of him. And besides, when Anya saw Connor, she didn't call him 'Dad' or 'Father.' Instead, she called him 'Mr. Salzburg,' which was why the police officer wondered if they really were father and daughter." The father wasn't happy to see his daughter, nor was he angry or exasperated by her incompetence. On the other hand, when the daughter saw her father, she wasn't excited about being rescued. Instead, she was terrified. This is strange no matter how one looks at it, right?"

Toby narrowed his eyes in thought without saying a word. Anya was terrified of Connor, who had done something very terrifying to her. Would a father do something terrifying to his daughter? Well, there certainly are such fathers in the world, but I believe they're in the minority. However perverted Connor is, he wouldn't have done anything terrifying to his daughter—unless they weren't father and daughter! They aren't father and daughter, huh... Toby's eyes flickered as the idea crossed his mind. That's right! If they aren't father and daughter, then all of this makes sense. "Tom," he said.

Tom straightened up upon hearing Toby's words. "Yes, at your service, President Fuller."

"Try to get your hands on Anya and Connor's DNA samples," Toby ordered in a grim voice.

Realizing what Toby meant, Tom immediately asked, "President Fuller, are you suspecting that..."

"Uh-huh," Toby replied.

Tom took a deep breath. "Yeah, that's indeed likely. It's just that I don't understand it. If they really aren't father and daughter, then why are they pretending to be?"

Toby's eyes darkened. "It's pointless to think about these right now. We'll know why once we get to the bottom of it."

"Yes, President Fuller," Tom replied.

Toby massaged his temples. "How did the meeting go after I left?"

Upon hearing his question, Tom instantly rolled his eyes. Oh, President Fuller, so you still remember that you're the company's president and that you've left the Fuller Group and the meeting behind, huh? He wished he could throw this remark at Toby, but he didn't have the nerve to do so. Therefore, he could only take a deep breath, compose himself, and reply with a businesslike smile, "Don't worry, President Fuller. The meeting went without a hitch. After you left, I gathered everyone and continued the meeting."

The meeting wasn't a particularly important meeting where Toby had to be present. In reality, even if Toby—the Fuller Group's president—was absent, the meeting could still go on, for the amount of property and money involved weren't much. Because of that, Tom had the courage to continue the meeting as Toby's personal assistant. If there were many properties involved and the amount of money was huge, Tom couldn't chair the meeting on Toby's behalf, of course.

Upon hearing that the meeting had gone smoothly and ended without a hitch, Toby gave an "Uh-huh" in satisfaction. "Good to hear that. Well, if there's nothing else, I gotta go," he said. With that, he hung up the phone heartlessly right away.

At the Fuller Group, Tom rolled his eyes as hard as he could as he listened to the disconnect tone on his cell phone. President Fuller, you can hang up all you want, but before you do so, could you please tell me if you'll still be coming to work today? There's a desk full of documents waiting for you to sign and deal with! He turned to look at the pile of documents on Toby's desk before letting out a sigh of distress. There are so many documents, and they're all urgent. When is President Fuller gonna come back to deal with them? They're worth a fortune, a fortune I say! He grabbed his own hair in frustration.

A while later, however, Tom suddenly calmed down and looked at the pile of documents coldly. Ha! If he's not coming back, then fine. It's President Fuller's own company, anyway, so the money lost will be his own. Even the boss himself doesn't worry about it, so why should I—a mere employee—be worried? At the thought of this, Tom instantly felt much more relaxed. Then, he walked out of Toby's office while humming a tune.

Meanwhile, at Bayside Residence, after putting down his cell phone, Toby sat in his chair and linked his fingers together on the desk before him. The lights in the study were off, and the curtains were closed, so it was very dark in the study. As a result, Toby was almost shrouded in darkness, which made him seem mysterious and grim since no one could see his expression clearly.

Just then, there was a knock on the door, and Sonia's gentle voice rang outside. "Toby?"

Upon hearing the woman call out to him, Toby looked up and took his hands off his desk. Then, he stood up, went over to the door, and opened it.

Seeing the pitch-dark study, Sonia turned to look at the man before her. She asked with a slight frown, "Why didn't you turn the lights on?"

"I forgot," Toby replied as his thin lips parted.

Sonia didn't bother to ask if he had really forgotten to turn on the lights or if he had purposely kept them off. Instead, she asked, "Are you feeling better?" She was referring to whether Toby had swallowed the fact that he was a substitute.

Toby lowered his eyes. "Yeah, I am."

"Then what about your mom—"

Toby lowered his eyes and replied impassively, "I don't blame her for that, but I won't have any feelings toward her anymore. Now all I have for her is respect." Even though his mother was nice to him, he really couldn't withstand the fact that she had used him as a substitute. That isn't something a mother's supposed to do!