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Nothing Matters, except YOU & Me Chapter 601

Meanwhile, in Iceland, as the wind blew, the air around them grew colder. Peeking his head out of the car, Matthias stretched his neck as he took a look outside. It seemed that they had to get some scarves too.

Heather sat comfortably in the car as she rested her eyes to the ballad music playing in the background. When he got back into the car, he had the urge to trace her defined nose bridge as he looked at her. There was a tint of pink on the tip of her nose. When he leaned closer, he could hear her steady breathing. He wondered if she was asleep.

“Heather,” he called out to her softly. Seeing that she didn’t respond, a thought came to his mind. “She’s asleep,” he muttered to himself. It seemed that she had really fallen asleep.

Closing in on her gradually, he left a kiss on her cheek. He enjoyed doing sneaky things like these from time to time. Fortunately for him, there wasn’t any reaction from her. Seeing that she was truly asleep, he was ecstatic deep down.

As he looked at the pink lips of hers, an urge within him made him lean closer. Just as he was about to kiss her on the lips, she suddenly opened her eyes.

As their gazes met, he could see that she was still a little blurry. After all, she had just woken up from her sleep. As he was caught red-handed, he didn’t know how to explain himself, so he smiled tentatively as a means to mask his awkwardness.

“Do you like this position a lot?” Despite having just woken up, she still had a sharp tongue. Her grogginess didn’t affect her ability to insult him at all.

"I saw some dirt on your face." He quickly reacted, reaching his hand out to rub the so-called dirt off for her. Immediately, she blocked his hand before sending him a glare. It irked her that he thought that she would buy such an obvious lie.

"Heather, when will it stop snowing?" He switched the topic immediately.

As she didn't want to hold onto what happened just now, she gave him a way out as she looked at the vast whiteness outside the car window.

"Perhaps after 3 days, or it may just stop in the next second," she absent-mindedly answered. She didn't even seem to be concerned about being stranded in the heavy snow at all.

"We can't continue in such heavy snow." As the route covered with snow was slippery, it was dangerous to drive, even with a Jeep.

"Should we get help?" she casually asked. It was blatantly obvious that she was not worried about their situation at all.

Seeing how relaxed she was, he felt the same way too. He then told her, "Why not we just save ourselves?"

Hearing that, she gave him a funny look. "We can consider that once the snow dies down." In such a big snowstorm, it was difficult to drive anywhere. Once it got less heavy, they might be able to find a hotel closeby. It was funny how they were questioning why they didn't see any snow some time back, and now, they were stranded because of a snowstorm. At this rate, the snow would get up to half a meter's height in no time.

"Will you be bored just by staying in the car?" He was worried that she would get bored.

"No. Even if I do, I have you here with me." She was rather optimistic about this. Other girls might've started to complain in a situation like this, but not only did she not complain, she even seemed a little happy.

"Is it really that fun to be stuck in the snow?" he asked curiously. He might have to tone down on his curiosity more often, as the way he asked this question might sound offensive.

"It's my first time being surrounded by snow, more so getting stranded halfway because of that. Though it might not be fun, I do find it's amusing." She didn't let his choice of words

bother her. Here in Iceland, she had been more gentle to him than before, and he was not used to it. However, she couldn't always be nice to him or he might take advantage of it--just like what he was trying to do now.

"It's my first time experiencing this too." As they initially thought there wouldn't be so much snow in Iceland, it certainly was a surprise.

"Memorable?" she said in a half-questioning tone. As such, he didn't know how to answer her.

Having been cooped up in the car for some time, it was only a matter of time until things got boring. But for the matters at hand right now, being stuck in the car was like being trapped in a small uncomfortable space. They weren't even able to stretch their bodies. After a while, they ran out of topics to talk about and so, he tried to fix the mood by asking a ridiculous question. "Do you know when you were born? Exactly?" he asked in a serious manner like how a tarot reader would.

"Are you trying to read my horoscope?" That was the first thing that came to her mind.

He simply smiled without a word as he looked at her, waiting for the information about her birth time.

"Let me try to recall. I don't remember it clearly." It wasn't an everyday question one would ask, so she didn't bother remembering it well.

"It must be accurate because it will affect the readings." It seemed as if he truly knew how to interpret horoscope readings.

Seeing how serious he seemed, she sent a text out to Robert. The only person who would remember her birth time clearly would be none other than him!

After the text message was sent out, she got a prompt reply. Though Robert was curious as to why she asked for that information, he still replied to her without asking anything. She then passed her phone over to Matthias, showing him the information he needed to know, which included her birth date and time.

After that, he took out his phone and looked up a birth chart online. He recalled that he learned a thing or two from his mother when he was younger.

Seeing how he seemed to know what he was doing, she thought he wasn't fooling around. Out of curiosity, she leaned closer as she tried to understand his birth chart reading methods.

As he lifted his head, he was met with a pair of beautiful eyes belonging to Heather. He didn't expect that she had the fate of Polis, Alkaid, and Greed Wolf Star according to the birth chart. These findings shocked him.

When she saw the surprised look in his eyes, her curiosity was piqued. She then asked him, "Do I have a bad fate?"

Shaking his head, he said, "No, I'm not done yet." Through the initial readings, he was already thinking that the readings were weird. However, he had to finish reading to see the entire picture.

Meanwhile, she watched him read the chart from the side as she wasn't knowledgeable at all in this field. As someone who was always eager to learn, she was naturally curious about it. Seeing how he was so serious, she was interested to know how the birth chart works.

As their eyes met, he was completely mesmerized by her eyes as they looked like a sky filled with stars. Getting uncomfortable with the prolonged eye contact, she commented, "Can my eyes help with the birth chart?"

"Yes," he shamelessly lied. He was getting bolder and bolder with her.

"Concentrate on the birth chart, will you?" she urged. After all, he should be more serious when doing things. She didn't like people who'd do things in a half-ass manner.

With his head hung low, he continued to read the birth chart as he noted down her birth time on a note-taking application on his phone. Reading birth charts was not a simple thing. Nowadays, many people would use applications that would do the reading for you, but he thought that it wasn't as accurate as a manual interpretation.

"Were you born in Bradford City?" He was beginning to sense something off with her birth chart.

Looking at the notes he keyed in on his phone, she couldn't understand what he noted down. Raising a brow, she said, "I was born in Italy." The reason why she chose to go to Italy

was that it was her birthplace. That was why she chose to further her studies in that country.

“So you’re an Italian. Ah, a foreigner,” he said in a joking manner, earning a glare from her.

“Do you think Grandpa would let me be registered as a foreigner?” Heather was never keen on bringing up things from the past when she was born. Back then, her parents had believed some lies from a witch doctor who said they would have a baby boy if the baby was born in Italy.

Every time she thought of how her parents had such thoughts before she was even born, she felt disgusted. Since her father had asthenospermia, it wasn’t easy for her mother to conceive her. If that wasn’t the case, she wouldn’t be born as they would have gotten rid of her after getting ultrasonography.

“I’m actually pretty curious on why you were born in Italy. Did your parents give birth to you while they were traveling?” Again, he asked the wrong questions.

“What has that got to do with my birth time?” she asked in a slightly angered tone. It was obvious that he was getting more and more daring with her. Though she understood that he wanted to know more about her, there were just some things that shouldn’t be asked.

Sensing that she was getting mad, he immediately shut his mouth. It was best that he continued to read her birth chart and not make her mad.

Finally, he finished the readings for her birth chart. With his brows furrowed, he read the notes he jotted down. Though he didn’t remember many certain details, the birth chart showed the incessant danger that was about to occur in her life.

After a while, she asked, “What did you find out?” As he kept quiet for quite some time, she was getting anxious.

“Nothing.” He was not willing to tell her what he saw, for he saw that she was currently or about to have a difficult time in life. She was bound to go through a lot of bad events. Hence, he did not want to tell her that and affect her good mood.

“Do you actually know what you’re looking at?” Giving him a scornful look, she could guess that he must have seen something bad. Since there was no benefit in saying it out, he chose not to say it.

Since she led the conversation to that, he simply went along with it. "Alas, I'm not very good at it. I shouldn't have tried to act smart in front of you. I apologize."

Though he said that, he was still bothered by what he interpreted. He then made a mental note to get a professional to find a solution to it once he returned to the country.

"I don't need your apology, you liar." She was unwilling to continue the conversation on this topic any longer. She didn't fully believe in astrology anyway!

"The snow is getting lighter now. Should we leave?" He immediately found another topic, attempting to soothe the awkwardness between them.

"Sure." Right after she said that, she kept her eyes shut again as if she didn't want to have any communication with him. After all, their earlier exchange had given her flashbacks of unwanted memories!

Nothing Matters, except YOU & Me Chapter 602

One shouldn't speak too carelessly on a snowy day. Looking at the snow outside the window, Matthias thought, These are the kind of days that are perfect for snuggling. However, the heater in the car was getting weaker. If they were still unable to find their way out, they might really need to send an SOS message.

"The GPS isn't helping at all." Heather looked at the car's GPS and felt that it was leading them to an even more remote area.

"The petrol is running low." Matthias was worried that the car would stop halfway.

“Should we call and seek help?” Heather actually sounded like she was gloating.

“It seems like you’re quite happy to run into a situation like this.” Matthias had never met a woman like Heather. Ever since she arrived in Iceland, he had been taken aback by her every word and action.

Heather darted an indifferent glance at Matthias while wearing a half-smile. “Are you unhappy with me?” From her perspective, Matthias had been nitpicking at her ever since they reached Iceland.

“How dare I?” Matthias quickly denied. As if testing Heather’s patience, he was growing bolder by the minute. He even thought he would be safe in front of Heather no matter what he did.

In fact, he was right. Heather’s temper had gotten much better and she smiled more often now. Besides, she wouldn’t simply blow up at Matthias anymore. Even if he stepped over the line, she would let it pass and wouldn’t kick up a fuss like she used to anymore.

Despite his insensitivity, Matthias still noticed something was off. On the surface, it seemed like Heather was making improvements, but in reality, it showed something was wrong. For some reason, he was perturbed by the underlying issue. What’s with her sudden change of behavior? This question had been bothering Matthias for a while now. Occasionally, he would wake up in the middle of the night to check on Heather, who was not far away from him, for he was worried she would suddenly disappear out of the blue.

“I wonder how things are in Bradford City.” Heather suddenly thought of Bradford City. After all, before they went abroad, she had come across a woman, and she had a hunch that she would meet the woman again soon.

Recently, Heather couldn’t stop thinking about the encounter. She felt that the appearance of the woman was not a coincidence and the latter might be related to the mysterious party behind the scene. In fact, she had just informed Leon about this matter via Messenger a while ago and hoped that he could help her find out the real identity of that woman.

“If you’re worried about the situation in Bradford City, we can head back earlier.” Matthias was willing to end their vacation earlier. As much as he enjoyed the time spent with Heather recently, he too had been troubled by some uncertainties, so he would rather head back to Bradford City and face reality.

“Do you want to go back to Bradford City?” Heather turned to look at Matthias. Actually, she already had this thought long ago, but she hadn’t been able to make up her mind.

Matthias remained silent, so Heather regarded his non-denial as acquiescence. Naturally, she understood Matthias’ thoughts, given that both of them were staring into each other’s eyes and reading each other’s minds.

“There’s no way we can go back now. The planes won’t be able to take off on a snowy day.” Heather retracted her gaze from Matthias and stared at the heavy snow through the window.

No one knew when the snow would stop. At this point in time, the decision of whether to go back or not was not up to them but the weather instead.

“We can take a train to leave here and transit to a plane in another country.” Matthias felt like Heather was still running away from the problem. There were plenty of solutions so why would she insist on getting on a plane in Iceland?

“You can’t wait to go home, huh?” Heather was surprised because Matthias seemed to be rather determined this time, and she didn’t know how to respond to him.

Matthias pulled up the car. “The petrol has run out.” They then decided to forgo asking for help as their plan was to save the remaining bit of petrol for the heater to run.

On the other hand, Heather immediately dialed the emergency number, but when the police asked for her exact location, she was at a loss for words. The GPS wasn’t working and they were currently at an extremely remote place, so she didn’t know how to inform them about her location either.

Just then, Matthias took over her phone and started communicating with the police. After his narration, the police quickly had a grasp of their location.

“I was today years old when I realized yet another skill of yours.” Heather smiled while gazing at Matthias. The way he explained their location to the police was indeed interesting. Never would Heather ever thought to explain it in such a way. Looks like Matthias is pretty quick-witted, she thought.

“I’ve learned some survival skills before.” In fact, Matthias had mentioned this before, but he decided to emphasize it again.

It was only then that Heather recalled that fact. No wonder he sounded so professional just now. It turns out that he has undergone some special training before. Now that she thought about it, the Locke Family was indeed prudent, but she couldn't understand why they would provide so much training to the person in charge of the family. She had heard from Matthias quite a number of times about the training he had undergone. He even had to excel in martial arts, which wasn't something any ordinary man would be able to endure.

"What exactly did the Locke Family go through for them to be so strict with you?" Given how strict Matthias' family was with him, Heather couldn't even imagine how he could've tolerated it throughout those years.

The training that was coerced onto Matthias by the Locke Family had already exceeded the endurance limit of any ordinary person. Moreover, Matthias was thin and weak back then; he didn't look like he would be able to endure all of it at all. Hence, Heather was really surprised to see him equipped with all these skills now.

"The Locke Family is large with many descendants. Unfortunately, every person in charge in the past didn't live long. They either passed away due to the strain of overwork or were kidnapped and killed as a result of blood feuds," Matthias said calmly as if it was a common event in normal families. Heather freaked out after hearing his explanation.

Before this, Heather had always thought that the Moriarty Family was gloomy and eerie. But now, it seemed like the Locke Family was not so different from the Moriartys after all. As such, she thought it was no coincidence that the two families were connected.

"What about your father?" Heather recalled that Matthias' father was the ex-CEO of Locke Group, and he had passed away at a young age too.

"He was killed by an enemy," Matthias answered unaffectedly. He indeed had no feelings toward his father at all.

Back then when Matthias' father was still around, he did not fulfill his responsibility as a father at all, and because of him, a lot of pressure was exerted onto Matthias after he died, so of course, the man would detest his father.

"I'm sorry," Heather mumbled apologetically and internally cursed herself for being too straightforward.

"No worries. If it wasn't for his death, I wouldn't have been able to become the person in charge of the Locke Family today," Matthias said in a revengeful tone. Even his expression had changed.

"Don't overthink it. What has passed is past, so let's not hold on to these anymore," Heather consoled Matthias. His father had already passed on, so Matthias shouldn't entrap himself because of his father.

"I've taken it easy a long time ago, so don't worry about me. I'm not affected by this incident at all. After all, what has passed is past." Although Matthias said so, in reality, he actually wasn't able to reconcile with himself.

Just then, Heather looked straight into Matthias' eyes, knowing that whenever he lied, his irises would change color, making them look like a clear well. While they appeared alluring, it, in fact, meant that he was troubled deep down.

"You're lying." Heather called him out directly. She could feel the emotional struggle that Matthias was experiencing, and she hoped to help him resolve it.

"I'm not." Matthias smiled. If truth be told, there were a lot of things he couldn't tell Heather.

"You don't dare to be honest with me because you don't trust me?" Matthias felt his heart squeezed when he saw Heather's disappointed look. Oh, how he wished to be completely honest with her, but he didn't want her to bear any unnecessary burden.

"I didn't expect you to care for the Locke Family this much." Matthias directed the topic in another direction.

Heather was taken aback by Matthias' comment. She was indeed interested in matters regarding the Locke Family because she wanted to make a breakthrough from there. It was hard to approach the Moriartys, so she could only target the Lockes for now.

Nevertheless, Matthias was very prudent, so Heather wasn't able to make any progress either. She was rather distressed that she couldn't find a breakthrough because whenever Matthias recollected the past, he wouldn't delve deeper into it.

"Do you think I care about the Lockes?" Heather looked at Matthias calmly. She had to remain firm at this moment lest Matthias noticed her intention.

“Then, could it be me you’re caring for?” Matthias said in a self-mocking manner, for he didn’t think too highly of himself.

In fact, he had long noticed that Heather was concerned about the matters regarding his family all this while. Although he had not figured out her real intention, he kept his guard up. In fact, he was rather disappointed in Heather’s actions because it seemed like she was more concerned about the Locke Family’s secret than him. He couldn’t help wondering when she would start taking him seriously.

He had been waiting for a change in Heather, but she had remained secretive to him all this while, which made him frustrated. No matter how much effort he put in, he couldn’t make Heather open up to him. While he had gradually opened up to Heather, the latter’s heart remained closed, making the man feel rather hurt.

“I’m curious about your encounters these past years too.” Finding out the Locke Family’s secret wasn’t Heather’s only intention; she wanted to care for Matthias too.

“What has passed is past—that is what you said to me just now.” This time, Matthias refused to give in and went against Heather.

The atmosphere became tense at once. The heater was getting weaker and the car engine was about to shut off, yet they didn’t feel cold at all.

“Heather, I do not wish to recall what happened in the past. Please stop forcing me, alright?” Matthias gave in toward the end. He didn’t wish to continue arguing with Heather, so he gave her an out.

“Well, sorry for caring then. I know my place now—I have no right to meddle with President Locke’s private matters.” Heather did not give in to Matthias’ compromise. As such, the harmony that had been gradually built between them over the past few days was destroyed instantly.

“Heather.” Matthias didn’t know how to bring this around with Heather. Just now, he had indeed felt her care for him, so maybe he had been oversensitive. After giving it a thought, he figured his words were indeed too harsh just now.

“When will the rescue team arrive?” Heather put the matter aside and brought forward a more realistic question.

"An hour later," Matthias replied.

"The heater has already stopped working. We'll be frozen to death in the car after an hour," Heather said indifferently as if the dispute between them had not happened.

"An hour will go by very fast." Matthias felt like Heather was exaggerating the situation.

Just then, Heather opened the door and the cold wind, accompanied with snowflakes, gushed into the car. Dumbfounded by Heather's actions, Matthias quickly yelled at her from behind, "Where are you going?"