

## **Meet My Brothers chapter 131 - 180**

### **chapter 131**

Timothy's eyebrows slightly raised at the mention of the prenatal appointment. He almost forgot the fact that Mia was "pregnant". "Understood." It was an ambiguous answer. "What do you even understand? You would've forgotten about it if it hadn't been for my reminder, would you?"

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“Bring Mia to my hospital for a prenatal appointment tomorrow,” instructed Laura before hanging up the call. He kneaded his temple before eyeing Heath. “Secure an appointment with the O&G department for tomorrow. Do not let Grandma catch on it.” Heath nodded and hurriedly left the office. Timothy took his phone out to text Mia. “Come to the hospital tomorrow morning. Grandma wants to see you.” At the same time, Mia finally felt alive after having a meal in her ward.

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Connor stood next to the bed. “Bring these medicines home. The results of the pregnancy test aren’t out yet.

I’ll let you know once it’s out.

“Go home and get some rest. Don’t push yourself at work. Don’t forget to take

folic acid.” “Got it. Connor, I’ve been wanting to ask something, but I forgot

about it a moment ago—aren’t you a veterinarian?” It was weird that she bumped into Connor there when it didn’t seem to be a vet.

He rubbed the tip of his nose, feeling awkward. “That was a joke. I aspired to

be a veterinarian, but reality and dreams are two different matters.” Mia

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nodded, thinking that he had a point.

He hurriedly changed the topic. “I’m on duty today. I’ve asked Liam to pick you

up. He wrapped up his shooting today.” Right when she was going to turn down the offer, Liam called her. “Mia, I’m turning into the hospital’s parking lot.

I’ll be there soon.” Memories of reporters taking his pictures occurred to her.

As an afterthought, she wore a mask in case of that event came to pass.

Noticing an MPV near the elevator, she strode over and hopped into the car.

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She scrutinized the area. “Liam, are you sure there’s no reporter at your heels this time?” “Don’t worry. They didn’t manage to catch up with my driver. Mia, Connor told me that you ran a temperature. Is it because of work? Why don’t you resign? I can look after you.” She found it hilarious. “I’m fine. It was just a cold. By the way, your movie seems promising. I can’t wait for its 12· +15 BONOS “The action scenes are mainly my part. When the time comes, you’ll be able to see how cool I am!” The sight

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of the wound covering his arm wrenched her heart. “Liam, that award-winning actor is so unprofessional. Why couldn’t he do those dangerous scenes himself instead of asking you?”

“They even earned him recognition by claiming that he performed all the stunts himself. This is so unfair to you!” Connor’s manager choked on water

upon hearing that, and Connor was caught between awkwardness and guilt.

“It’s fine. They pay me handsomely, though. Oh, Mia, would you like to join

variety shows? There’s a show called ‘A Celebrity Dream’ in the hopper.

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“They’ll invite designers to design and renovate houses with celebrities.”

Mia

rejected. “No thanks. I’m juggling my studies and a part-time job at the studio

at the same time. I don’t have much time.” “Oh, well,” Connor sighed at his

ungranted wish. 1 Connor wondered just how he could get her involved in show business.

It was only when Mia returned home that Patricia learned that Mia was hospitalized.

Patricia specially made porridge for her, which was slightly sweet to the taste.

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Not long after that, Dominic video-called Mia to check on her when he found

out about her illness

Meet My Brothers by Red Thirteen chapter 132

Meet My Brothers by Red Thirteen chapter 132-Mia wore a perky expression,

assuring Dominic that it was a small cold, not a terminal illness.

Nevertheless, her family's concern gave her warmth.

After the video call ended, she lay in bed to rest. But sleep didn't find its way

to her.

She took her phone out, scrolling through her WhatsApp only to find a

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message from Timothy.

It went unnoticed by her because she was talking to her family.

Completely aware of the need to keep the show going in front of Laura, she

replied, “Noted.” Mia shut her eyes, recalling the wedding dress she saw at Maya’s place. The white color was a sore to Mia’s eyes.

Fortunately, one month wasn’t that long.

It would be over soon.

The next day, Mia headed straight to the private hospital where Laura was staying.

Gina’s message slid into the notification when Mia got into a cab. “Mia, you’re

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the person with the mask on, aren't you?

“And you told me that you have nothing to do with the famous actor. I gave

you that tote bag for your last birthday.” That message caused a sense of trepidation.

Mia clicked the trending article. As she guessed, she was involved in a scandal with that famous actor again!

“After the Shooting Wraps Up, the Award-Winning Actor Returned to Home

Sweet Home Alongside With His Girlfriend” With a single glance at the picture,

she could tell that it was taken outside the neighborhood.

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Now, the award-winning actor suddenly had a girlfriend without his knowledge!

Mia didn't know what to feel about it anymore.

She explained her stance before this, but now, she simply wanted to let it be.

Truths were always mixed with made-up stories in the show business anyway.

No one would take it seriously.

“Mia, I'm not the only one who recognizes you. Our classmates are asking whether it's you or not.” Mia let out a soft sigh as she read the message, relieved that she wore a mask when leaving the hospital.

Otherwise, she would've been on the chopping board!

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1/2:

Then, she retweeted the article on Twitter. “It’s time to lay my cards on the table—that’s right, I’m his girlfriend.” The number of likes increased in a short time.

The majority took it as a joke instead of taking her words at face value.

They

merely thought that she resembled the woman in the picture.

It was as Mia had expected.

After all, why would a huge celebrity like him go out with a non-show business

personality like her?

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She strolled out of the elevator, noticing a tall man standing by the corridor.

He was in the middle of a discussion with a doctor.

Her steps faltered for a moment before slowly walking toward them.

Heath saw her and informed Timothy, “Mr. Barrett, she’s here.” Timothy looked over his shoulder, eyeing her. He narrowed his eyes. “You’re late.” “You told me to come in the morning. You didn’t give me a specific time,”

Mia

readily countered back.

Now that he was going to marry Maya, she wouldn’t hold her sharp tongue back at his infuriating tone.

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He pursed his lips. “I knew it. You found another target. The way you talk to me is different.” “What do you mean?” “Playing dumb? Who’s that rude male doctor from yesterday? What kind of relationship do you have with him?”

Her eyes widened. It turned out that Timothy misunderstood her relationship with Connor.

Mockery was evident in her eyes as a smile spread across her lips. “Mr. Barrett, I know you’re a busy man, but not a busybody. Am I wrong?” “It’s just

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a friendly reminder from me. A reminder not to misunderstand that doctor's intention. He is quite popular in the hospital, especially among the female doctors, nurses, and patients. "He treats you well simply because he wants to hook up with you." Mia almost burst into laughter at that. "I'm glad to hear that. That means he's nice. That's why a lot of people are vying for him." She couldn't understand why Connor was still single despite his popularity and made a mental note to ask him when

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she returned home.

She turned around. “I’m going to see Grandma now.” “Wait. Take the prenatal test first before you go.” Her expression slightly changed at the mention of the prenatal test.

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Meet My Brothers by Red Thirteen chapter 133-Mia shot a disbelieving look at

him. “What prenatal test?” She wondered if he had grown suspicious.

“Have you forgotten that you’re pregnant? Grandma scheduled a prenatal test

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for you. Just put up a show for her.” It was only then that she managed to calm herself down. “No need for the hassle. I’ll tell her that I’ve done it yesterday.”

“No can do. I’m sure she’ll ask for the prenatal test result and the ultrasound.

So, you must take the prenatal.

test here.” Her breath hitched at that. “Your family owns this hospital. You can

ask someone to forge one.” Timothy suddenly approached her and grasped her shoulders, lowering his voice. “You see Martha there?” She raised her head and saw Martha. Mia seemed confused. “What’s wrong?” “You didn’t

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return from school for a few days, and she told Grandma about it. Grandma must've thought that something bad happened between us. "That's why she wants to meet you on the excuse of taking a prenatal test." She lowered her head. "So, it's just a show? And I only have to follow the procedures?" "Yes, what else?" She finally nodded. "Okay." Martha wouldn't be able to enter the examination room with Mia anyway. Whatever the results were, Timothy would be the person relaying the message. Mia followed the doctor downstairs to the examination room. As she expected, it was just a show because a lady was already in the examination room. That lady was pregnant, not Mia.

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In the end, Mia could gain the result thanks to that woman.

Everything was in order under Timothy's preparation.

An hour later, Mia left the examination room and headed upstairs to visit Laura.

Laura held Mia's hand. "Look at you, Mia. You're all skin and bones! You don't

have to push yourself at work when you're pregnant. You can ask your husband to do it instead!

"You're carrying a baby in your belly. You don't have to hold yourself back. It's

not that hard for men to become fathers!" "Okay, Grandma. I will." Mia's response made Laura smile.

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Then, Mia advised, “You have to take your meals and listen to the doctor too.”

“I know. I’m still waiting to welcome that baby in your belly to the world!

The

idea of meeting my husband that soon weighs on my chest heavily.” Mia noticed Laura’s lack of energy and decided not to take up more of her time.

When Mia and Timothy left the room, Mia inquired, “When’s the surgery?”

“End of the month.” She nodded before lifting her gaze and looked at Timothy.

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“Congratulations on your engagement. But—just a piece of advice—keep a low

life, will you?

“Don’t let the word get out, or Grandma might catch wind of it.” “I know that

well enough for you to save that.” “Right. You’re the best at keeping a secret.

I’m off.” She spun around and left.

Staring at the ceiling while walking down the corridor, she fought back the tears in her eyes.

He didn’t move an inch from where he stood. The hands resting by his side balled into fists.

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He gulped before saying, “Wait.” Mia stopped in her tracks, her eyelashes fluttering like a butterfly. She masked her emotions and looked back.”

What’s

the matter?” Her heart picked up its pace as he stared silently.

What did Timothy want to say?

He pursed his lips.

Right when he was going to bring up the fake engagement with Maya, a poshly dressed middle-aged woman exited the elevator.

The smile on Sharon’s face vanished the moment she saw Mia. “What are you

doing here? I’m warning you, don’t you dare spout nonsense in front of Mom!”

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Mia gave an indifferent reply. “Don’t worry because I won’t. I wish for her surgery to be successful more than anyone does.”

Meet My Brothers by Red Thirteen chapter 134

Meet My Brothers by Red Thirteen chapter 134-At least you have a conscience.” Sharon then shifted her gaze to Timothy.

“Tim, Maya told me that her brother is in Bern City. Let’s have dinner together.

We can discuss your marriage, too.

“After all, neither dour families is an ordinary family. We should talk about it

thoroughly.” Timothy looked in Mia’s direction expressionlessly.

She didn’t look back. Not even once.

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Self-mockery dimmed his eyes. It didn't bother her whether the engagement was real or fake.

After all, she found herself another man anyway—not to mention that there were two men! She was handling it with ease.

In fact, it should be good news for him because she wouldn't have the time to pester him.

However, he wasn't as happy as he expected himself to be.

Sharon turned to face Mia angrily. "Hey, you better not come to the hospital

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that often! Timothy is going to marry Ms. Lane soon. They are the perfect in-laws for us!” A forced smile was plastered on Mia’s face. “I know. You don’t have to repeat that so many times. People might mistake you as a parrot.” She glanced at him again, meeting his eyes. The determination in her eyes was flaring. The elevator door closed, thwarting that shrewd and intimidating eye fight. Only then did she lean against the wall inside the elevator, letting that snicker loose across her lips. She was mocking herself.

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Everything would be over for good once the surgery was done at the end of the month.

The weight perched on her heart all the way home.

Connor came out from the kitchen. “Mia, I made you chicken soup. The results are out. You need the nutrients.” She quickly pulled his arm. “Keep it down!” “Relax. Aunt Patricia isn’t here.” “Alright.” A sigh of relief escaped from her.

“Is there a problem with the prenatal test result?” “The baby’s fine. The

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biggest problem is that you're a little malnourished. You should eat more.”

Mia

saw the bowl of soup on the table. It smelled good.

She gulped it down to her heart's content. It was delicious!

She glanced at the tabletop. “Connor, your phone is ringing again. Did something happen at the hospital?” Connor grabbed the phone and gave it a

glimpse. It was a phone call from Maya.

He placed the phone down indifferently. “I receive calls all the time. Just ignore it. I need a break from work.” “What if it's an emergency?” “If so, they

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would've called me through the landline." He knew the reason behind Maya's call, but he didn't want to take that surgery upon himself. It was not like he was the only doctor who existed. Besides, he didn't want to marry her off to Timothy, disliking the idea of his family getting acquainted with the Barretts. Meanwhile, Mia bought his words as she enjoyed how he pampered her with the food. Initially, she was worried about her looking after the baby alone in the future.

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However, Connor's reliable presence willed that concern away. He unobtrusively glimpsed at his phone, which showed the many missed calls. He didn't answer the call until the end. Frustration was slowly clawing its way up in him. Were the Barretts that special? He had made himself clear to Maya, but why wouldn't she just give up on Timothy? He was even a divorced man! He even had lingering feelings for Mia! He brought her to the hospital on purpose and hired a caretaker. A player like him was a douchebag! On the other side, Maya's phone was on the brink of dying from the incessant

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phone call attempts.

She stood outside a private lounge, the color on her face drained from all the

anxiety. “Why is Connor not picking up the phone? Did you look for him at the

hospital?”

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Meet My Brothers by Red Thirteen chapter 135-Maya gripped her phone tightly, barely restraining herself from smashing her phone.

Her assistant replied, “I’ve checked with the hospital management. He’s not

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on duty.” “Since he’s not on duty tonight, why is he not picking up the phone?

Is he not willing to have a meal with me now?” Annoyance slowly got the best of her.

In fact, she didn’t see Connor’s rejection coming. That was why she scheduled for that night’s dinner to press the following plans into motion. Yet, he didn’t show up that day!

Maya glanced at the private lounge, where Timothy and Sharon were present.

They were waiting for Connor.

If he didn’t show up, what should she do?

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She shot a cold gaze at her assistant. “I told you to verify if there’s any bad blood between Connor and Timothy. Any updates?” The assistant shrunk as she replied, “No, for now.” Maya slapped her. “Useless! Incompetent trash! If your incompetence gets in my way, I’ll fire all of you!” She felt better after venting it out to her assistant. After feigning a facade and taking a deep breath, she entered the private lounge. “Let’s dig in first.” Sharon said, “How could we? Let’s wait until Connor’s here. It’s our first time meeting him. It’ll be unbecoming of us to start

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without him.” The expressionless Timothy looked at Maya. “How long before he comes?” If it hadn’t been for Connor’s attendance, Timothy wouldn’t have appeared for the dinner.

“Connor wanted to come, but as you know how busy the hospital can be. There was an emergency patient. So he couldn’t come.

“We can’t let him abandon the patient, can we?” She quickly made up a nonexistent story.

Timothy had his doubts as his questioning gaze pierced through her.

Sharon tried to alleviate the mood by saying, “She’s right. He’s a famous

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doctor, after all. It is normal for him to be swarmed. It's alright. We can take a rain check." A wave of relief washed over Maya. "Sure." "This is not a huge issue. As long as your brother agrees to perform the surgery, we don't mind."

She dropped her gaze, faking calmness. "He has agreed to it. But he still holds an opinion toward Timothy 1/2:

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right back to their places.” Maya’s eyes brightened, and she smiled ambiguously.

Timothy set down his cutleries. “Since he’s not coming, I shall take my leave.”

“Where are you going? You can leave after you have your fill.” Maya sprang

up from her seat and chased after him. “Tim!” He took big strides out of the

restaurant without looking back.

She stood right there as her eyes shone with an evil glint.

She wouldn’t give up that easily.

After a few days’ rest, Mia fully recovered from the cold.

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Liam especially bought two tickets to an auction. “Mia, are you interested in charity auctions?” Mia had only known charity auctions by words. She spared a glance at the tickets. “Aren’t those where only rich people hang out?” “It was supposed to be a schedule for that famous actor, but he didn’t want to go. So, I have to fill in his place. Just buying a few things there will do. You want to come along?”

Meet My Brothers by Red Thirteen chapter 134-At least you have a

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I have to fill in his place. Just buying a few things there will do. You want to come along?”

Meet My Brothers by Red Thirteen chapter 137

Meet My Brothers by Red Thirteen chapter 137-Mia's eyes fixated on Timothy

when he trod in their direction. She couldn't shift her gaze away from his suit.

She was almost certain that it was the suit she picked for him a few months ago.

It was the time when Maya hadn't shown up, and he hadn't suggested a divorce.

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Timothy's brows creased the moment he saw the bidding number in Mia's hand.

Maya welcomed him with a grin. "Timothy, it's a surprise to see Ms. Bowen

here, isn't it? Shelly and I found it weird, so we were talking to her."

Shelly quickly added fuel to the fire. "Timothy, I'm pretty sure she hooked up

with a man. Otherwise, considering her status, she wouldn't have been able to

show up here.

"It's her fate to stay poor forever, yet she keeps dreaming of being a Cinderella." Mia's expression turned cold.

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Liam snorted from her behind. “No wonder I smelled something foul from afar.

Not even your strong perfume can cover that foul smell coming from your mouth.

“You should return home and cleanse your mouth before stepping outdoors.

It’ll be bad to wither those poor flowers outside.” His words made Shelly’s blood boil.

The shade and layers of powder scarcely hid her fuming cheeks. “Timothy, did

you hear that? How dare he insult me!” Timothy’s eyes turned icier when he

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noticed Liam's presence. It seemed this was the man Mia came with. A smile spread across Mia's lips when she looked over her shoulder at Liam.

His sharp tongue never failed to amuse her once, and he managed to voice out her thoughts.

He stood next to her side casually while staring at Timothy shrewdly.

A few days ago, Connor mentioned that Mia fainted due to illness, as well as

the fact that Timothy took her to the hospital and hired a caretaker.

As a man himself, Liam saw through Timothy's intentions easily.

But, according to Liam's standards, Timothy didn't deserve Mia at all.

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Liam flashed a dashing smile. “Be mindful of how your people behave, Mr. Barrett. Don’t let them loose and bite anyone. Otherwise, someone might bite you in the back one day.” Timothy’s thin lips pursed. “I don’t need a lesson from you.” Noticing the tense atmosphere between the men, Mia felt her heart jumping out of her chest. This was freaking Timothy Barrett! And Liam was challenging him! She was aware that Liam was standing up for her, so she pulled his arm.

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“Let’s go. The auction is starting soon.” He wanted to say more but followed her in the end, figuring that it was Timothy’s luck for now. The provocative glare from Liam ruined Timothy’s mood. Maya cooed, “Calm down, Timothy. Liam acts that way all the time. He often gets in people’s bad books in show business when he was in Nord City. That’s why he stays under the radar. “If someone exposes his sharp tongue, he might lose his fanbase.” Shelly couldn’t follow. “Isn’t he that famous actor’s stuntman?” Maya explained, “Liam does have a stuntman, but I can recognize him. That person is my

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cousin, Liam Lane. He's not a stuntman. But his agency is using the stuntman to shield Liam away from scandals." Shelly snorted coldly. "Mia is not an easy woman. She just divorced Timothy, and she's hookin up with Liam already. Just what part of her makes him fall for her? Perhaps, when she's in bed

Meet My Brothers by Red Thirteen chapter 138

Meet My Brothers by Red Thirteen chapter 138-Timothy faced sideways and chided, "Mind your attitude, Shelly Barrett. Is the long years of upbringing all

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for nothing? You're just plain rude. Not even the perfume can cover your foul attitude!" Shelly was dumbfounded. "Timothy!" "If you don't know how to speak properly, then shut it. Don't be such a disgrace." He left those cold remarks and marched forward.

Maya comforted Shelly before following him.

Meanwhile, Mia and Liam were searching for their seats.

He gazed at her. "Mia, were you bullied when you worked for the Barretts?"

Her eyelids fluttered. "No. Mrs. Barrett Senior actually treated me well. No one

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had the nerve to bully me.” “But judging from how Shelly acted back there, I can tell that she didn’t treat you–nicely. Don’t worry, Mia. I’m going to make her pay for it!” “It’s a misunderstanding, Liam. It’s not what you think it is.” She didn’t want him to get on the Barretts’ bad side because of her. That was exactly why she didn’t speak with her brothers about her marriage with Timothy. How could Mia watch him teach Shelly a lesson and let it be? No matter how

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spiteful Shelly was, she was still Ms. Barrett!

Right when she was going to talk Liam out of it, she noticed Timothy approaching them. And she zipped her lips.

Liam followed her gaze, and there happened to be two empty seats next to them.

He clicked his tongue, doubting the possibility of such a coincidence.

Some things transpired by chance as if it were fate.

Mia realized that Timothy had taken the empty seat next to her, with Maya sitting beside him.

Straightening her posture, she could faintly smell his perfume. It was so faint

that she could scarcely catch it without paying heed to it.

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It was the perfume she picked for him on the notion that it would suit him. However, he never used these things once, just like the suits. Never once had

he worn those clothes or used the perfume.

Her eyes slightly widened when she sniffed the familiar perfume.

Timothy was acting out of character that day.

Not only was he clad in the light-colored suit Mia chose, but he also wore the

perfume she picked for him.

Mixed feelings stirred in her as she couldn't see through him.

Maya noticed Mia and thought of something to talk about. "Timothy, you're

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quite different today. You wore light shades and perfume, didn't you?" His tone gave off a hint of awkwardness. "No." "Don't be shy, Timothy. Men can use perfume, too. Besides, the perfume you're wearing smells nice. Which brand is it?" "I don't know." He was deadpan. Mia sneaked a peek at him, figuring that the answer was reasonable. He really didn't know the brand. After all, she made it by mixing a few perfumes of different brands. It took a few experimental attempts before getting the final product. There was only one bottle of it in the world.

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Soon, a pungent perfume wafted their noses. It didn't take a genius to know

who the incoming guest was.

Shelly sat behind four of them, staring at Liam with fuming eyes.

She couldn't understand how Mia was able to hook up with such an upstanding man that quickly. Were these men blind?" Then, the auction was

going to commence soon.

Maya cast a glance at Mia intentionally. "Ms. Bowen, this must be your first

time attending an auction. Don't be nervous." Mia's fingers gripped the bidding

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number tightly.

Rage exploded in Liam as soon as he heard that.

Meet My Brothers by Red Thirteen chapter 139

Meet My Brothers by Red Thirteen chapter 139-Sensing the ball of rage forming in Liam, Mia grabbed his hand to stop him.

“Calm down!” He glared at Maya, mocking, “Whose credit is it that you’re able

to come this far? Know your place!” Maya’s smile fell, fearing the possibility

that he revealed she was adopted.

Only a few in Nord City knew of it. No one in Bern City was aware of it.

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That was why she loved visiting Bern City, where no one knew her true origin.

The rich people in Nord City looked down on her solely because she was adopted.

It served the cause for Maya's resolution to marry an all-rounded man with powerful background.

Timothy was the candidate she had her eyes on.

Once she earned the title of Mrs. Barrett, no one in Nord City would give her

contemptuous looks!

Maya zipped her lips immediately, and Mia found the situation off.

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Considering the fact that Liam was disguising himself as that actor, wouldn't

Liam's attitude tarnish that actor's reputation?

"Mia, take it. You can buy anything you fancy." The bidding number was shoved into her hands.

She didn't know how to react, but she could feel Liam's protectiveness.

Timothy's gaze landed on her bidding number, and his lips thinned.

He threw his bidding number aside.

The auction officially began.

Liam's voice sounded. "Mia, what do you think about that antique vase?

Should we put it in our living room?" Mia showed hesitation. "It doesn't

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complement the interior design, though.” “Mia, what do you think about this painting? Don’t you think it’ll look nice in Aunt Patricia’s room?” “Mia, look at that necklace. Isn’t it beautiful?” Her eyes glanced at the picture briefly. “It is.” “Mia, let’s bid for that necklace later. Enjoy yourself. Tell me if you take a liking to something.” Timothy, sitting next to them, loosened his tie due to the rising heat as his ears jarred with Liam’s voice. Timothy thought that it was a waste of time coming for this auction.

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His eyes stared at the painting presented onstage. After Liam's bid, Timothy followed suit by raising his number.

Mia shot a surprised glimpse at Timothy, wondering what he was up to. Liam snorted and raised the bid. "200 thousand." "250 thousand," Timothy offered calmly.

Mia had a bad feeling about this. As the trepidation hinted, Liam raised the bid to 300 thousand dollars, only to have Timothy add another 50 thousand dollars.

She wondered, "Are they challenging each other?" Maya noticed the competitive silent battle as well, glancing at Mia.

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Discomfort settled in Maya's heart as she guessed the reason behind Timothy's actions—was it because of Mia?

It didn't take long before the bid went up to 500 thousand dollars, which exceeded the value of the painting itself.

The battle soon drew the attention of others.

Mia held Liam's hand down, motioning him to stop.

However, Liam's ego wouldn't let him back down. It was a war between the men.

At the next second, Timothy increased the bid to 600 thousand dollars.

Mia stole the bidding number from Liam, drawing eyes to herself. It was as

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though they were waiting for her to raise it. She faced sideways at the man briefly. He looked at her with dark eyes. The eye contact lasted for a while before she smiled. “Since you like it that much, we shall let you have it.” Timothy’s gaze swept across Liam. “Raising the white flag already?” The ball of fury erupted in Liam the moment he heard that. There was no way he would back down from it. If Mia hadn’t pressed his hand down, he would’ve crushed Timothy’s ego! She held Liam’s hand calmly. “We aren’t idiots that only know how to splurge money

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Meet My Brothers by Red Thirteen chapter 140

Meet My Brothers by Red Thirteen chapter 140-Liam snorted coldly before

breaking into a smile at Mia. “Mia’s right. You’re smart! He’s an idiot.”

Timothy,

who successfully won the bid for the painting, could feel a tag reading “idiot”

hanging over his neck.

He grasped his bidding number tightly, staring at the painting wordlessly.

The

triumph gave way to annoyance almost instantly.

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At that moment, Maya spoke to an attendant. “Reserve the painting. We’ll pay for everything altogether later.” Her gaze on Mia for a second as she added, “Auction is meant to be a competition. Timothy bought the painting for Mrs. Barrett Senior.” Knowing that it was a gesture meant to save Timothy’s pride, Mia merely smiled. Still, it didn’t quell the frustration bubbling in him. Soon, the item on display was that diamond necklace with a minimum bid of

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300 thousand dollars.

Liam blurted, “Mia, I’m going to buy it for you. You’ll look stunning with it!” A

sister–fool definitely thought that anything on the face of the earth suited their

sisters.

Before Mia could say anything, Maya raised her number. “400 thousand.”

Silence dawned upon Liam for a second when he heard that. He wondered, “Why is everyone stealing away my gift for Mia? Just when will they stop their

games?” He lifted his number. “500 thousand!” Every bid increased by 100

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thousand this time, once again receiving people's attention. Maya frowned, and then she forced a smile. "Do you like this necklace too, Mr. Lane?" "Mia likes it, so don't you dare raise your number again!" Failing to buy that painting was already annoying him enough. She didn't dare to challenge him. If he were to expose her true origin as an orphan, staying in Bern City would be impossible for her. She barely maintained the smile on her face. "I shall back off then." Her gaze drew back to Timothy after she said that.

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She thought that he should be smart enough to see that Mia was in a new relationship.

Now that Maya had announced her vanquishment, Liam thought that it would be his win for sure.

Until Timothy raised his number again. “One million.” Even Mia stared at him

incredulously, wondering if he was out of his mind.

The previous bid was merely 500 thousand dollars, but he doubled it! Was he insane?

Shelly claimed in an undertone, “Ms. Lane, I’m pretty sure Timothy is set on

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buying you the necklace. Please be rest assured.” An uneasy smile plastered on Maya’s face. Was Timothy really buying it for her? She wasn’t confident about the answer, but a voice in her head told her that he was doing it for Mia.

Now, another man was treating Mia with care and love. Someone of high status as Timothy wouldn’t be able to stomach such humiliation, would he?

Things were getting interesting.

Meanwhile, Mia overheard the ladies’ conversation. The corner of her lips twitched as she agreed with Shelly’s statement.

Mia could tell who Timothy was buying the necklace for.

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Liam lifted his number again. “Two million.” The atmosphere heightened to

another level of excitement.

The bystanders were losing interest in the items on display. Rather, the competition was more enticing to speculate in comparison.

Mia’s heart palpitated when she heard the amount. She couldn’t understand

why Liam joined Timothy’s antics.

She intended to stop Liam, but he simply raised her hand for the bid instead.

Asking him to give up on that necklace was out of the question.

Soon, the bid skyrocketed to five million dollars.

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Blood rushed up to her head, and her heart was on the verge of leaping out of her chest.

The five million dollars bid was from Liam. It was a huge number. The sight of Liam holding Mia's hand was an eyesore to Timothy, who then raised his number expressionlessly. "Ten million

Meet My Brothers by Red Thirteen chapter 141 -

Meet My Brothers by Red Thirteen chapter 141-The crowd surged into commotion.

Liam seethed at the thought of Timothy's insanity.

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Shelly jeered from behind, “Mia Bowen, it’s ten million now. Raise your number if you have the money. If you can’t cough up enough money, you’ll be detained here.”

The next thing that happened was Liam raising Mia’s hand. “Twelve million!”

Mia was stunned while he appeared rather calm. He didn’t lack money anyway.

As long as Mia took a liking to something, no one could take it away from her—

Liam firmly believed so.

Although 12 million dollars was kinda far-fetched, he had five brothers—

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or more like ATMs—to count on!

Timothy was equally taken aback. After all, it was such a huge amount of money.

Still, announcing defeat was not in his plans.

The host on stage appeared hesitant as well.

Soon, an attendant approached Liam. “Excuse me, sir. Since it involves a huge amount of money, we have to verify your funding to make sure that it’s

fair.”

Shelly gloated. “Did I hit the bulls–eye?”

Liam rose from his seat. “Let’s go. Where to?”

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No one had verified his wealth status in Nord City before. Thus, it was normal for the people in Bern City to be oblivious to it. Mia tagged along as well, with Timothy's dark eyes observing her. Jealousy turned Maya into a green-eyed monster. She knew Liam's wealth very well. How could he lack money when the Lane family was backing him? For Liam to spend 12 million dollars on that necklace for her? Mia's lucky fate elicited envy in Maya. Suppressing her jealousy from erupting, Maya noticed Timothy's grim

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expression.

She added fuel to the fire. “Timothy, it seems like Ms. Bowen has found someone generous. But our family is a prestigious family in Nord City. I doubt

my family would agree to their relationship.”

Shelly saw eye to eye with that. “I know, right? Her background is laid on the

table, and yet she’s daydreaming of being a Cinderella. She should’ve known

her place!”

“Enough!” He interrupted Shelly and strode away.

At the same time, Mia accompanied Liam to a VIP room.

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He suggested, “Wait here, Mia. It’s just a trivial matter. Don’t worry about it.”

“Okay. I’ll wait for you outside.” She didn’t enter the room as he told her, but it didn’t shake her concern off.

It was a staggering 12 million dollars!

If he didn’t have enough money, would he be detained?

Pacing back and forth didn’t help to smoothen the anxiety.

“What’s the matter you don’t have the money?” A man’s low voice sounded.

Mia’s head snapped to his. There was a pause before she asked, “If that’s the

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case, would you lend me some money?”

Her bravado provoked him. “Do I look like an idiot?”

A soft chuckle escaped her lips when she heard the word “idiot“. Marching forward, she primped his tie.

Stiffness riveted him at that spot. He lowered his gaze onto the crown of her

head, and his Adam’s apple bobbed.

Despite his unnatural reaction, his tone remained steely. “Why? Now that you

find out that he’s not rich, are you trying to abandon him and-”

A cough cut him off.

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Mia tightened his tie around his neck, and she looked at him with dark eyes.

“Then, what are you doing here, Mr. Barrett?”

“Seeing how much you care for me makes me think that you might have lingering feelings for me.”

He coughed. “Let go of me!”

He couldn’t believe that she had the guts to hurt him.

Meet My Brothers by Red Thirteen chapter 142-Only then did Mia release Timothy. She fixed his tie gently, so gently that it didn’t feel real to him.

It reminded him of the past when she helped him with his tie and took care of

his meals and well-being.

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Something wavered in his eyes as he forgot about how she strangled him just

a moment ago.

At that moment, the door was opened, and Liam walked out of the room. “Mia.”

An alarm went off in his head when he realized that Mia was with Timothy.

He took huge strides to disengage them by standing between them.

Timothy’s face fell. A slightly nervous Mia gazed at Liam. “How did it go?”

“I paid the money. They’ll bring the necklace over to us later. Let’s go.”

“Okay.” She nodded and didn’t spare Timothy a single glance.

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But she could feel his piercing face.

Liam eyed Timothy. “Make way, please. Don’t you think that you’re getting in the way?”

Pursing his lips, Timothy didn’t move an inch.

Mia held Liam’s arm. “Let’s go this way.”

“Okay. Your wish is my command.” Liam looked at her with a warm smile.

“Mia, why don’t we get a bracelet too? It’ll be a matching set with the necklace!

“Oh, how about getting new clothes and bags to match that necklace? We can

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head to the mall later.”

Timothy watched the duo leave as his brows furrowed.

Finally, he loosened his tie again before looking at Heath. “Do women generally prefer men who are good at sweet nothings?”

Heath was silent for a moment. “Men who know how to make them feel better

are indeed more popular. Women like to be pampered.”

Timothy sighed in disdain. He trod toward the auction venue, his face all gloomy.

Maya walked to his side. “Timothy, where have you been? Ms. Bowen’s boyfriend bought that necklace.”

He was watching Liam help Mia wear the necklace from behind her.

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Her smile was such an eyesore for Timothy to take in.

A grin beamed across Maya's face. "Looks like Liam is serious about Ms. Bowen."

Shelly huffed, "Someone like her wants to be Mrs. Lane? In her dreams! Ms.

Lane, are your family going to

Maya went stiff. "I-I'm not sure about that."

That was because she couldn't invite the three men to her engagement.

All these years, they had never acknowledged her status as Ms. Lane. Of course, she would take that fact to

her grave.

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Shelly turned to Timothy. “Timothy, the engagement ceremony is going to be this weekend. Why not cut down the number of guests? Mia might come over to ruin the occasion.”

Maya heaved a sigh of relief. Shelly made herself useful at times despite her stupidity.

Anticipation glowed in Maya’s eyes, which zeroed in on him.

He returned her a cold gaze instead. “When will Connor have time?”

She froze, barely making a feeble explanation. “I–I’m discussing it with him

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about it. He's busy these days."

"I see. There's no need for that. Let's call off the engagement."

Meet My Brothers by Red Thirteen chapter 143-Timothy dropped the bombshell and left. Maya's face fell. She followed him in haste. "Timothy, hear

me out! Connor has agreed to perform the surgery.

He just doesn't have the time!" We've also decided on the date for our engagement ceremony.

If you call it off, he'll misunderstand the situation again!" He looked down at her

icily.

"Maya Lane, the engagement was only a deal to begin with. It's not real. I

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hope you can keep that in mind.””I know.” She could barely keep a calm expression at his words.”Very well.

Since Connor isn’t sincere about doing the surgery, I think there’s no need to

continue with the deal. It’s over now.” He flung her hand away and walked away ever so indifferently.

Maya stood over there with red eyes. She had worked so hard for it, but her

effort went down the drain! Shelly came over. “Don’t cry, Ms.

Lane.””Shelly,

Timothy actually has feelings for Mia. He said he wanted to call off the engagement!”

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Meet My Brothers by Red Thirteen chapter 144-“Dominic, I wanna marry Timothy.”

Dominic sighed. “Must it be him?”

“Yes. He’s the only want I wanna marry.”

He contemplated it. “Maya, you should give it a serious thought. Are you sure

you want to use it on this?”

“Yes. I’m sure.”

In the end, he answered, “Okay.”

The wave of relief came with joy as her eyes brightened. “Dominic, are you

agreeing to my marriage with Timothy?”

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“Yes. I gave you my word, and I’ll make it happen.”

“Thank you, Dominic.” The exhilarated Maya hung up the phone.

As long as Dominic agreed to her request, there wouldn’t be a problem.

Mia woke up the next morning and scoured the entertainment articles for that

famous actor.

Every time she hung out with Liam, it would always stir up a scandalous article about that famous actor.

However, it seemed like there were no such articles floating around. There was only news of the famous actor attending the charity auction with a 12 million dollar donation.

Aside from that, there was nothing else.

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She breathed out a sigh, feeling relief.

As her gaze trailed downward, there was another article-“Ms. Lane Attended

Charity Auction With Future Sister-In-Law“.

The photo showed Maya and Shelly alighting from a car.

Mia exited the webpage after taking a glimpse at it.

She headed to the studio to work overtime. Earning money was her priority.

When she arrived at the office, Felix stepped out of it. “Mia, you seem to be

working your ass off recently.”

“Can’t help it when I’m in dire need of money.”

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“Mia, you can tell me if you’re stressed about picking up your studies again.”

She responded calmly, “Thanks, Felix. But I’m handling it just fine.”

“Mia, you’re a woman. You don’t have to work this hard. I know your family

circumstances aren’t great, but you

The corner of her eye twitched. Her rejections were obvious enough, but he

chose to bring it up explicitly.

Her lips pressed into a firm line. “Felix, having a relationship isn’t one of my

concerns for now. Sorry.”

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“I actually have feelings for you since a while ago, Mia. But you took a gap

year before I was ready to confess.

“No one knew where you went either. Now that you’re back, I don’t wanna let

you slip through my fingers again. I’ve given it a serious thought.”

She inhaled a deep breath. “I was actually married, Felix.”

“Mia, you don’t have to make up this kind of excuse to reject me.”

“I’m serious.” She wished she could explain more, but it seemed like he didn’t

believe in her words.

So, she let it be.

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After getting off work, Mia paid Laura a visit at the hospital. The surgery would be on the weekend. It was finally happening. She bought daisies—Laura’s favorite—hugging them as she rode the elevator.

The moment she stepped out, she saw Timothy talking on the phone in the corridor with a grim expression. “I don’t believe that that doctor is the only person who can perform this surgery.

“What about the others? Are they useless?”

Heath, who stood beside him, said, “Sir, we’re trying our best to find the right doctor. But we need time.”

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Questions crossed Mia's mind. "Wasn't it final that Maya's brother was going to be the doctor in charge? Why the sudden change?" She approached them with the flowers. She eyed Timothy's back. "Is something wrong with the arrangements?" Heath hastily retreated to a side upon noticing her, while Timothy stiffened when he heard her voice.

Meet My Brothers by Red Thirteen chapter 145-Mia waited for a while until Timothy spun around. His bloodshot eyes showed that he didn't have a good rest. Anxiety surged in her. "Did something happen to Mrs. Barrett Senior?"

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She pivoted on her heels, intending to barge into the room before he held her wrist.

“She’s perfectly fine.” His voice was gruff.

“What’s the problem then?” Her puzzled eyes met his dark ones.

She couldn’t read his mind.

He said sternly, “Something happened on Maya’s brother’s side. So, we need a Plan B.”

“What happened?”

Wasn’t the engagement ceremony soon? Was Maya’s brother disregarding the Barretts when they were going to be a family?”

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Mia studied Timothy's face in an attempt to gain at least some information from it.

However, he turned to face the window. "It's nothing important."

Her arms tightened around the bouquet, and her questions still hung in the air.

She was certain that he was hiding something from her.

At that moment, Martha emerged from the patient room. "You're here, Mrs.

Barrett. Mrs. Barrett Senior has just woken up. She was talking about you."

Mia settled her nerves and put on a smile, entering the room. "Grandma, I'm

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here.”

“Mia, come, come. Let me have a close look at you. You’re skinny. Does the

baby bother you too much?”

“Nope. It’s well-behaved.” Mia stroked her belly.

In fact, the baby was well-behaved. Other than the occasional discomfort owing to too much work, she didn’t show much pregnancy symptoms.

Laura grinned at her belly. “Mia, come here and sign this paper.”

It was a gift agreement.

Mia refused without a second thought. “Grandma, I can’t accept this.”

“Accept it, Mia. This is a gift from me to the baby. If I don’t make it through the

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surgery, I want to at least leave something for the baby.”

“Don’t say it like that, Grandma. The surgery will be successful. Timothy found

a skilled doctor. There won’t be a problem.”

“Mia, if you want me to undergo the surgery with peace of mind, then accept it. It’s not for you anyway. It’s for A document was shoved into Mia’s

hands. Laura was firm.

Timothy strode into the room. “Accept it.”

Mia glanced at him before taking the document, figuring that she could return

it to him later.

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She didn't want a single penny from the Barrett family.

Laura finally broke into a smile. "That's more like it. Tim, you have to take

good care of Mia and the baby."

"Grandma, I'm usually busy with work. We need you for that." It broke his heart to see his grandmother aging.

Although the Barrett family was powerful, they couldn't do anything when it

came to life and death matters.

Mia kept Laura company for a while. She managed to tickle Laura's funny bones, lifting her mood.

Nevertheless, it didn't take long before the wanly old woman fell asleep.

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Mia exited her room and swiftly proffered the document. Timothy lowered his gaze onto the paper but didn't take it. "Grandma gave it to you."

"It's for the baby, the nonexistent baby. And we know that very well. So I can't take this." She caressed her belly.

Lying to Laura pricked her guilty conscience, but that was the only thing that could be done.

Timothy didn't take it, so she simply thrust it into Heath's hands and left.

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She wouldn't take a single penny from the Barrett family—that was her bottom line.

Meet My Brothers by Red Thirteen chapter 146-Timothy's eyes darkened as he watched her leave.

Heath swallowed hard before he asked, "Mr. Barrett, how do I deal with this document?"

Timothy glanced at him and replied indifferently, "It's for you. Deal with it on your own."

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Heath was at a loss for words. He felt like he was in a dilemma. It was undeniably a rough day at work for him.

When Mia arrived home, she recalled Timothy mentioning about getting a new

doctor. She was worried about

Laura's surgery.

However, the thought of asking him about the surgery slipped her mind when

she left the hospital.

She remembered Connor's acquaintance, who was a doctor. He might be able to offer a piece of advice.

After all, she was worried about Laura and wished for her speedy recovery

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after the surgery.

Thus, she gave Connor a call.

“Connor, are you busy now?”

“I’m good. Is there anything wrong?”

“Previously, I mentioned that my friend’s grandmother needs to undergo surgery. And I asked whether you knew anyone who could do the job, and you

said you had someone in mind, right?”

“Yeah, but didn’t you say your friend had found a doctor?”

Mia paused for a while.

“That’s right, but apparently, the doctor isn’t willing to do it anymore. So, we

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had to look for another one.”

“I see. Alright, no problem. Tell me the details once I get back.”

“Sure.”

After she hung up, she heaved a sigh of relief. She really hoped that the doctor Connor found would be willing to perform the surgery.

She waited for him to return from work for the entire night. She even made him some macaroni as supper.

When Connor came home, the macaroni was the first thing he saw. He beamed with joy instantly.

After he snapped a picture of it, he planned to show it off in the group chat that Mia personally made supper for him.

He took a seat after he washed his hands.

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“Mia, what’s your friend’s grandma’s condition?”

He had to be fully aware of her details before he agreed to perform the surgery.

Mia explained Laura’s condition thoroughly. After all, she used to be her caretaker and knew best about her illness.

While Connor busied himself with eating as he listened to her, his expression gradually turned grave.

“This isn’t a simple surgery.”

“Exactly, that’s why we had a hard time finding a suitable doctor. When we

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finally found one, there was a sudden change of plans. However, my friend's

grandma couldn't afford to wait any longer."

He nodded and answered, "Alright, I should be able to work on it."

"Really? Do you know someone who can perform this surgery?"

Connor was momentarily stunned when he realized that he nearly blew his cover.

In a haste, he explained, "Yeah! I know a friend who's an expert in this surgery. Rest assured, your friend's grandma will be fine."

"Alright, I'm relieved."

Mia was certain that he wouldn't lie to her.

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After a brief pause, she continued, “Connor, is it possible for me to know who your friend is and his whereabouts? I don’t think my friend’s grandma can wait any longer.”

Connor’s hand came to a halt.

“My friend’s quite busy, so I don’t think he has the luxury to meet you. However, you can pass me the medical records so I can hand them over to him.

“We’ll set a time for the surgery, and he’ll perform the surgery by then.”

This was the only way he could think of to carry out the surgery for Mia’s friend’s grandmother without exposing himself.

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Mia hesitated. Actually, she already had Laura's medical records since she used to be her private caretaker.

But Laura's name would be found on the medical records. What if Connor found out?

Meet My Brothers by Red Thirteen chapter 147-In fact, Mia was still in a dilemma. After all, Liam was so close to fighting Timothy back at the auction house.

When Timothy sent her to the hospital because she lost consciousness from

being sick, even Connor

suspected that he was the father of her child.

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Things would be complicated if Connor found out her friend's grandma was

Laura.

She sighed. This was tough.

"Mia, what's wrong?" As Connor finished his supper, he noticed the pensive

look on her face.

"Is there something you can't say? Is your friend running short on cash?"

"No, it's not like that."

There was no way that Timothy lacked money.

After a brief pause, Mia continued, "Connor, will you help me no matter what

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happens?”

“Of course, you’re my sister.”

He would offer a helping hand regardless of anything. If it were something he couldn’t help with, he would go to great lengths to help her.

Connor spotted the hesitation in her eyes. He ruffled her hair.

“It’s alright. Just tell me which hospital your friend’s grandma is at, and I can

accompany you over to check on her.”

“Then, can you help me to ask whether the doctor can make it?”

“Sure. Get some rest now, Mia.”

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She got up and went back to her room. Frankly, she was pondering on whether she should tell Connor the truth. She also wasn't sure whether Timothy would be please with her doing this.

Maybe he would even blame her for meddling in his affairs or speculate that

she was merely trying to please

Laura.

She covered her face with her hands as she gave up on thinking. She would

be fine for now.

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When Mia woke up the next day, her belly suddenly felt slightly uncomfortable. Yet, she couldn't bring herself to sense what was off.

Since she was worried about her baby, she called Connor immediately.

"Connor, my belly hurts."

Feeling anxious, he bombarded her with questions.

"Where are you now? Do you need me to come over?"

"I'm on my way to find you. I don't know whether I'm just overthinking."

"Mia, you must come to the hospital if you feel something's wrong. After all,

you're pregnant and must be extra

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careful.”

This was what she had in mind as well. Thus, she hailed a cab and headed straight to the hospital.

Connor was already waiting for her at the hospital entrance.

“The doctor’s waiting for you. Let’s go for an ultrasound and check whether there’s an issue.”

Mia was equally worried. After taking the ultrasound, the results showed that

there wasn’t anything wrong with her.

The obstetrician said, “The baby’s growth probably affected your uterus, or you might’ve been under quite a lot of stress lately. You have to

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relax.”

Indeed, Mia had been worrying about Laura’s surgery lately.

When she came out with the scan report, she realized that Connor was nowhere to be seen.

She took out her phone and noticed a text from him.

“I have a patient that I need to tend to. Once you’re done with your checkup, take a seat and rest for a while. Wait for me.”

While she put her report away, she went to the first floor to have a seat.

Just

as she stepped out of the elevator, she bumped into Maya.

Instinctively, she tried to keep her bag out of her sight. After all, she had her

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report in it, and she had no idea what Maya would possibly do.

“Mia, what are you doing here?” Maya was astonished to find her here as well.

With a nonchalant expression, Mia replied, “Are you the only one who’s allowed to visit a hospital?”

She had no intention of engaging in a conversation with her. In haste, she tried to move away from her as quickly as possible.

Nonetheless, Maya darted after her.

“Wait! I have to tell you something. My family has agreed to my marriage with

Timothy. Now that no one is stopping us, you better get rid of all your hopes.

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You won't even stand a chance!"

Mia halted her steps when she heard her.

"If this is the case, then why is Timothy finding another doctor for Grandma

Laura's surgery?

"Isn't your brother a renowned doctor? Why is he not willing to perform the

surgery when you and Timothy are about to get married soon?"

Meet My Brothers by Red Thirteen chapter 148-Mia's words caught Maya right off guard. In fact, she was there because she wanted to talk to Connor about this.

Nonetheless, she wouldn't bring herself to admit it.

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She tilted her chin up as she retorted, “Who said my brother isn’t going to perform the surgery on Grandma Laura? That was in the past, and things are

different now. My brother will do it!”

Mia scrutinized Maya as she said, “Maya, you should know how much Timothy cares for Grandma Laura. If he finds out you’re deliberately lying by

using her, you’ll be doomed.”

“Hmph! You should really mind your own business instead, Mia!

Grandma

Laura’s surgery will be carried out soon, and I’ll be engaged with Timothy by

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then.”

Mia watched Maya step into the elevator. She turned around and took a seat

at the hospital lounge.

When she glanced at the scan report in her bag, she steered clear of any negative emotions.

She really hoped what Maya said was true, that Laura’s surgery would be carried out smoothly.

Yet, Maya was always a show-off. If her brother really did agree to perform

the surgery, why didn’t he show up at all?

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Moreover, Timothy was already contacting other doctors. Clearly, he was also

suspecting that Maya was lying.

Thus, Mia still had to be prepared. She had to get Connor to find a doctor who could perform the surgery well.

Maya took the elevator and headed straight to Connor's consultation room. However, it was empty.

Just then, Connor happened to return from the wards. His expression changed slightly when he saw Maya in front of his office.

"What brings you here?"

"Connor, I have good news. Dominic agreed on my marriage with Timothy."

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Connor came to a halt. He frowned.

“Maya, although you’re not one of the Lanes, you grew up with us since you

were young.

“We’ve always treated you well, and all I wanted was for you to marry a decent man. But what’s so good about Timothy? Why must you marry him?”

“Connor, Timothy divorced her because his previous marriage was arranged

by Grandma Laura. He wasn’t even in love with her. Moreover, he had already

broken up with that woman!”

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“That woman was married to him for the sake of turning his luck around. When he was finally conscious and recovering, he kicked her out right away.

How is this acceptable?

“There’s something wrong with him!”

Maya explained hastily, “Connor, he didn’t do that out of his own will. I still like

him despite him being divorced!

“Since you like him, why weren’t you with him back when he was so close to

becoming a vegetable from that accident?

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“You listened to us and didn’t even leave for Nord City to find him. Yet now, you insist on marrying him.”

There was a hint of awkwardness on Maya’s face.

“I don’t want to lose my second chance when I already did with my first chance.”

Back then, Timothy was on the verge of death from the accident. There was

no way that she would marry a dying man.

Yet, little did she expect him to recover and regain consciousness.

Maya felt extremely regretful whenever she was reminded of this.

She might have already become his wife if she had put herself on the line for

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him. Then, she would no longer need to go through all the hassle to marry Timothy.

She lifted her head and continued, “Since Dominic had agreed on the marriage, we’ll be a family from now on. Please help with Grandma Laura’s surgery!”

Meet My Brothers by Red Thirteen chapter 149-Maya was staring at Connor

with her pitiful eyes. Although she knew she was a substitute for the daughter

of the Lanes, she had been well off all these years.

Since Dominic had agreed to their marriage, Connor would surely agree to

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perform the surgery.

Yet, in the next instemt, he retorted icily, “No!”

He recalled Mia working as a caregiver at the Barrett residence and how Timothy treated her. There was no way that he would associate himself with their family.

Maya’s expression changed slightly.

“Why? Even Dominic had agreed!”

“That’s none of my concern. Since you’re so eager to marry Timothy, so be it.

I’ve said what I have to. Yet, I never said that I was going to perform surgery

on a Baret!”

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“Connor, are you disobeying Dominic?”

Little did Maya expect him to go against Dominic.

With a nonchalant expression, Connor replied, “I have made myself very clear. You can marry anyone you like, but I never promised to do the surgery.”

“Connor, if you’re not going to do the surgery, how can I marry Timothy?”

“Didn’t you say you guys were close? Will he not marry you if I’m not performing the surgery?”

Looking slightly alarmed, Maya went up and tugged Connor’s hand.

“Connor, it’s nothing like that! Why can’t you just do the surgery for Grandma

Laura? After all, we’re family.

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“Back then, you guys brought me back and promised to treat me well like your

real sister. All these years, I’ve never asked anything from you all!

“It’s just a simple surgery, so why are you so reluctant about it?”

Connor wrenched his hand away. There was a hint of disappointment in his

eyes.

“I won’t back down on this.”

He was firm on not performing surgery for a Barrett. He turned around and left

the consultation room, leaving Maya behind.

He was headed for the safety exit to make a call.

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“Dominic, did you agree on Maya’s marriage with Timothy?”

Dominic was in a meeting.

He paused and proceeded to answer, “That’s right. I did promise her that as

long as she keeps Grandma Laura

“She mentioned that she wanted to get married to Timothy yesterday.

Since

she insisted on the marriage, I agreed.”

“Timothy’s a rascal. He’s only marrying Maya to get me to perform surgery on

Mrs. Barrett Senior. He’s a cunning one, for sure. Although Maya’s not our

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biological sister, is it okay for her to marry him?”

“Con, it’s her choice

There was a moment of silence.

“Dominic, you knew Mia used to be a caregiver at the Barrett residence.

Plus,

I’m positive that Timothy

definitely has a thing for her.

“If Maya’s married to him, we can’t avoid interacting with them. I don’t want

the Barretts revealing Mia used to

work for them.”

Dominic’s brows drew together as he replied, “That makes sense. If Maya

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insists on marrying him, we'll dissolve our adoption relationship with her.”

“Yeah, that works.”

Connor finally hung up. After all, Maya had been living her best life with the Lanes.

However, things had been difficult for Mia for so many years. Thus, it was only right to prioritize her first.

He called Mia right away.

“Mia, I just finished my work. Where are you?”

“I'm at the lounge on the first floor.”

“Right, I'll be there in a while.”

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Just as Mia hung up, she lifted her head and happened to see Maya stepping out of the elevator. She seemed pretty devastated. Wasn't she as proud as a peacock earlier on? Mia couldn't help but wonder about Maya's purpose for going to the hospital.

Meet My Brothers by Red Thirteen chapter 150-Mia pondered on the question as she watched Maya leave. Yet, she was left with no answers. After a while, Connor emerged from the elevator. He strode toward her. "Mia, I asked the doctor about your condition. You're probably under too much stress."

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She nodded. “I know. The doctor told me.”

Connor plopped himself down beside her as he questioned, “Mia, are you hiding something from us?”

Although they found Mia, they still felt like she was keeping a distance from them.

Mia lowered her gaze when she thought of Laura. Yet, she chose to be straightforward about it.

“Actually, it’s not a big deal. I’m just worried about my friend’s grandma’s surgery.”

“Oh, this. You should’ve told me earlier. Well I called my friend earlier, and

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he said he's able to perform surgery on your friend's grandma."

"Really?" Mia's eyes lit up. Since Connor said so, there shouldn't be an issue.

This was great news to her!

"However, my friend's quite busy. I'll pay a visit to your friend's grandma with

you, and we can go through her

medical records first to have a better understanding of her condition.

"By then, the surgery can proceed as soon as possible."

Mia was momentarily stunned by the fact that Connor planned to visit Laura

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with her. In this case, she would no longer be able to hide it from him anymore.

She glanced up at him as she said, “Connor, can’t your friend come instead?”

I mean

important, isn’t it better for him to be physically there?”

Since the surgery’s

Connor seemed slightly awkward. If he went, his real identity would be exposed. After all, he almost blew his cover back at the hospital.

Fortunately, Mia, who was as gullible and kind as she usually was, didn’t suspect him when he changed from

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a vet to a doctor.

Nevertheless, she wasn't a fool.

This was tough.

All of a sudden, both of them sat in silence.

Connor began brainstorming for ideas. He was desperate to find a way to perform surgery on Mia's friend's grandma without exposing his identity.

This was particularly difficult.

In the end, Mia couldn't bear it any longer.

"Connor, I'll just tell you the truth. My friend's grandma is actually

Grandma

Laura."

Connor was dumbfounded.

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Furrowing his brows, he blurted, “Timothy’s grandma?”

Mia nodded. “Yeak’s her.”

Connor inhaled sharply. He was baffled by how she addressed Laura. It seemed like they were close.

Yet, he dreaded the fact that her friend’s grandma happened to be Laura, Timothy’s grandma. In fact, the last thing he would expect was that she was

also looking for a doctor for Laura!

Hesitantly, Mia shot a glance at Connor, who was seated right across her.

“Connor, what’s wrong?”

Connor quickly cleared his throat. “I–It’s nothing. I’m just a bit surprised, that’s

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all. I didn't expect your friend's grandma to be one of the Barretts.  
"But given how well off they are, why do they need you to look for a doctor?"  
Connor narrowed his eyes. He believed that Timothy was tricking Mia.  
After  
all, she was an innocent and kind soul. There was no way he would let Timothy deceive her!  
Mia glanced down as she said, "Initially, there was no need for that because  
they found a renowned doctor, and he's also from Nord City.  
"Initially, he agreed to do the surgery. However, something happened, and he

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broke his promise.”

Connor seemed quite uncomfortable. Was he the doctor that Mia was talking about?

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Meet My Brothers by Red Thirteen chapter 151-Connor remembered he didn't

agree to perform surgery on Laura. He had never agreed to this.

His eyes glinted coldly as he stroked his chin in thought. Then, the only possibility left would be Maya lying- no wonder she was constantly visiting him

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these days.

In an instant, his perception of her grew worse. How could she lie to him? As he tapped his finger on the table, he said, “Mia, though you worked as a

caregiver at the Barrett residence, it seems like they weren’t particularly kind to you.

“Liam mentioned that Shelly’s been bothering you. So, tell me, why are you still willing to help them out?”

They were already very displeased with the Barretts for deliberately making things difficult for Mia.

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Mia avoided his gaze as she replied, “Didn’t I mention it before? Grandma Laura has always been kind to me.

“She’s helped me a lot since Uncle James’ predicament. I won’t forget this, so

I wanted to return the favor.”

“I see.” After pondering on the matter, Connor concluded that not everyone

from the Barrett family was despicable.

In the end, he nodded as he said, “Alright. I’ll help you out.

Although he disliked Timothy and the Barrett family, he still held his principles

despite declaring that he would never perform a surgery on a Barrett.

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However, he thought Mia mattered so much more than his principles since she was practically begging him.

\*Thank you, Connor.” Mia finally heaved a sigh of relief after he agreed.

She

really hoped Laura could live a long and healthy life.

Connor flashed a smile at her as he replied, “Don’t mention it. It’s what I’m

supposed to do.”

After all, it was undeniable that Laura helped Mia in times of difficulty when

they still couldn’t find her. Thus, he had to return the favor.

As a result, he agreed to perform the surgery.

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“I’ll leave you to your work then, Connor.”

“Sure. Let’s visit the hospital Grandma Laura’s staying at tomorrow to go through her medical records.”

“Alright.”

With that, Mia took her leave and took her phone out to text Timothy, but she hesitated.

In the end, she set her phone away and decided to see how things would turn

out after Connor went to the hospital tomorrow.

Once she left, Connor texted in the WhatsApp group chat.

“I decided to perform surgery on Grandma Laura.”

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The group chat blew up in an instant.

Dominic wrote, “This wasn’t what you said yesterday!”

Liam texted, “I’m against this! That scumbag from the Barrett family has his eye on Mia. We shouldn’t help them.”

After Connor recounted his earlier conversation with Mia to them, they went silent.

Finally, Eva gave her opinion. “Since it’s Mia’s demand, I think it’s a yes.

From

now on, we don’t owe the Barretts anything.”

That was what Connor had in mind as well.

The next day. Connor accompanied Mia to the private hospital.

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She brought him to Laura's doctor immediately so he could get his hands on

the information needed as soon as possible.

Meanwhile, she made her way up the stairs to visit Laura. Little did she expect

Timothy to be in her ward as well.

She was momentarily stunned when she saw him, yet she quickly flashed a smile to Laura.

"Mia, you're here! Come sit down and have some fruit."

Mia could clearly sense that Timothy's gaze was fixated on her as she chatted

with Laura. She could no longer stand it.

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She excused herself from the room so she could cut the fruits.  
Meet My Brothers by Red Thirteen chapter 152-“Tim, what are you waiting for? Go and help her.”  
Laura drove him out of her ward, which made Mia sigh. In fact, she intended to avoid him.  
Nonetheless, her pace faltered. She wanted to inform him that she was also looking for a doctor for Laura.  
When she spun around to face him, his gaze on her was intense.  
As she met his eyes, she asked, “Have you found a doctor yet?”  
“No.” He drawled.

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Was he still unable to find a doctor?

Just as Mia was about to speak, she saw Maya emerging from the elevator. There was a drastic shift in the atmosphere.

Maya looked particularly sullen when she stepped out of the elevator. She probably didn't expect Mia to show up as well

After she took a deep breath, she turned toward Timothy and said, "Tim, I need to tell you something."

Timothy furrowed his brows as he remained silent.

Lowering her gaze, Mia blurted. "Then I'll get going first."

She scurried over to the other end of the corridor with the fruits. She had no

idea why she headed in that direction. After all, she couldn't cut the fruits

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there.

When she saw Maya approaching, she was suddenly at a loss for words.

If Maya could find a doctor, Mia would refrain from telling Timothy.

Otherwise,

they might make fun of her for getting a doctor who was inferior to

Maya's

brother.

Maya stared at Timothy as she questioned, "What is Mia doing here?"

"What are you doing here?" he snapped, his lips forming a thin line.

Her eyes turned slightly red upon his reprimand. "Tim, I'm here

because I wanted to tell you something."

Although Connor didn't agree to perform the surgery, Dominic had already

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granted her permission to marry Timothy.

The only thing Maya had to do now was to impose on her grandmother, Margaret. Although she seemed mentally unstable, she had been nice to her..

If Maya persuaded her to convince Connor to perform the surgery, he would definitely agree.

However, even Timothy had begun to doubt her.

Thus, Maya decided to meet him personally so she could assure him and ask

him to be patient with the Timothy's brows drew together as he spun around

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to take the stairs down.

“I don’t feel like talking to you.”

“Tim, I know you’re angry at me, but I’m doing this for your sake.”

“Are you lying for my sake as well?”

A hint of awkwardness flashed across Maya’s face as she replied, “I admit that it’s my fault, but Dominic had agreed on our marriage. It won’t take long

for Connor to agree.

“Though he’s a weirdo, his surgical skills are renowned in the entire world.

I

have been trying to persuade him

to come over to perform surgery on Grandma Laura.”

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Timothy didn't halt his steps down the staircase. He was not in the mood for her nonsense.

Maya strutted after him defiantly. When she realized he was headed for the office of Laura's attending doctor, she was awash in terror.

Did he manage to find a suitable doctor? Impossible!

She was determined to find out the truth. There was no way that she would allow any other doctors to perform surgery on Laura except Connor.

Nonetheless, Timothy paid no attention to Maya, who was behind him. He strode right into the doctor's office.

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Just as he pushed the door open, Connor, who just happened to finish going through the records, was preparing to leave.

He thought it was Mia when he heard someone enter the room. Yet, he turned around and saw Timothy.

Meet My Brothers by Red Thirteen chapter 153-When their eyes met, the tension in the air was palpable. Timothy stiffened as he stared at Connor.

What was this man doing here?

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Just then, Maya caught up with him. When she saw Connor in the office, she

was bewildered.

“Connor? Why are you here?” She darted into the room as a spike of excitement jolted through her. The last

person she would expect to bump into here was Connor.

Her heart raced as she asked, “Connor, have you finally agreed to perform the surgery?”

If it wasn't for this, why would he be here?

Connor knitted his brows when he saw Maya. He was flustered that she showed up again.

He felt like he was about to have a headache soon. Mia was in the

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hospital as well. If she found out.  
everything would be ruined.

No, he couldn't expose his identity now!

In a composed manner, he answered, "I'm here to check on the patient's condition."

'Connor! I knew you cared for me and would definitely agree to it!' Maya couldn't care less and flung her arms. around his neck briefly.

She felt like even god was on her side.

She was already on the verge of showing all her cards to Timothy. Yet, she didn't expect Connor to visit the hospital secretly to check on Laura's condition.

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At this point, it seemed like his refusal was merely an act. He still agreed in the end.

Maya's eyes glistened with tears as she released Connor. She turned around and looked at Timothy.

"Tim, I was right all along. Connor has always been on my side. He'll definitely agree to perform surgery on Grandma Laura."

Timothy didn't budge. Instead, he was astonished. "Is he your brother?" The last time when Mia fainted, he brought her over to a public hospital. It had

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appeared that Connor was the man who treated her back then. Moreover, it seemed like Mia knew him, and they were quite close. The caregiver who was driven away revealed to him that Connor was constantly hanging around Mia, flattering her with all his might. Somehow, Timothy felt displeased with the situation. He didn't expect the coincidence that the man turned out to be Maya's brother. Connor scoffed, "Why? Do you have a problem with that?" Not only was he Maya's brother, but he was Mia's brother as well. As Timothy narrowed his eyes, there was a sour look on his face. Maya quickly chirped, "Tim, that's just how Connor usually talks. Don't mind him."

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Connor didn't pay him any attention.  
He was staring at Maya as he said, "Tell the man you're going to marry to stop dallying with other women once he's married to you."  
He specifically wanted Timothy to stay away from Mia. If he found out that he was trying to do something to her, he would make sure to break his legs. A smile crept onto Maya's lips. She was thrilled when she realized that meant her family was no longer against the marriage. This was great!  
She hadn't been able to sleep last night. When she heard Timothy was

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coming to the hospital to visit Laura. she decided to come clean with him. She knew he was starting to become doubtful. However, she didn't expect Connor to show up here. Without skipping a beat, Maya rambled, "Connor, rest assured. Tim isn't like that! Since you're here, did you manage to obtain the information you needed? When can we proceed with surgery?" "Just follow the initial plan. We have to wait until the patient gets better. Only then can we proceed with surgery.

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“In the meantime, I hope no one interferes with her condition. Make sure the

patient’s aware of the changes I’ve made afterward.”

Meet My Brothers by Red Thirteen chapter 154-Although Connor detested Timothy, he was still going to keep things professional. After all, he was only

here for Mia’s sake. He wouldn’t let her down.

Timothy finally said, “When will you start on the surgical plan?”

The plan was critical, Cardiac surgeries were usually extremely complicated, and

unexpected circumstances were bound to happen. Thus, a detailed surgical plan was needed.

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Connor replied, “I’ll be here again in two days. By then, I’ll come up with a plan. I need some time for this, and it shouldn’t be rushed.”

Maya nodded as she chimed in, “He’s right. The surgery should be carried out by the end of this month. We still have plenty of time.”

Connor glanced at his watch. “I have to go.”

He had to excuse himself to avoid bumping into Mia. He would be in trouble if that happened. How was he going to explain the situation?

“Connor, since you’re here, why don’t we grab a meal together? Despite the

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misunderstandings we had in the past, we're about to become a family soon.

We need to sort things out.”

With a stoic expression, Connor rejected her invitation. “There’s no need for

that. I’m busy.”

In haste, he left the room right away.

Maya went after him, yet she eventually came to a stop as she watched him

go. She turned back and glanced at Timothy.

“You see, Tim, I was right. He may have a sharp tongue, but he’s nothing like

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that. Although he refused, he actually came in secret to check on Grandma Laura's condition.

“That explains a lot. By the end of this month, he'd be able to perform surgery on her.”

Timothy felt conflicted as he glanced over at the notes Connor left on the desk.

Completely immersed in excitement, Laura's attending doctor exclaimed, “Mr.

Barrett, he's indeed the best cardiac surgeon in Nord City. He mentioned a few plans that we missed out on.

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“However, we can’t carry out the plans. He’s the only one who’s capable of it.”

“That’s for sure.” Maya interrupted with delight. “Connor’s amazing. If he were

to operate on Grandma Laura, she’d recover in no time!”

Timothy looked at the doctor as he said, “Then, do as he says.”

It was the best they could do since they had the most elite doctor to operate on Laura.

They stepped out of the office together.

Maya was thrilled. She sneaked a glance at Timothy, realizing he didn’t refuse

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to have Connor operating on Laura. Did that mean he had accepted her? A wave of exhilaration washed through her as they waited for the elevator to head upstairs.

Just as the elevator opened, Mia emerged from it. She was stunned for a moment when she saw Maya and Timothy.

After all, she didn't come across them when she deliberately took her time to prepare the fruits. She thought they would be in the ward, but it turned out that they weren't.

Nonetheless, she was unfazed. After she got the fruits ready for Laura, she intended to head downstairs for Connor. She wanted to ask how everything

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was for him.

Although she had mentioned Laura's condition to him, it would be different

after he went through the medical records.

Little did she expect to bump into Timothy and Maya.

The silence in the air was tangible as they stared at each other.

Maya's eyes flickered with glee as she asked purposefully, "Ms. Bowen, what

are you doing here?"

Meet My Brothers by Red Thirteen chapter 155-Mia kept her composure despite Maya's snark remarks.

"Can't I be here to check on Grandma Laura? After all, her surgery hasn't

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been decided.”

She didn't mention that she had Connor looking for a doctor.

However, she wanted to know whether Timothy knew why Maya's brother couldn't perform the surgery.

Maya's grin widened. “Is that so? I don't think you have to do that now because my brother has agreed to operate on Grandma Laura.

“The surgery will take place by the end of this month, and she'll recover soon.”

Mia was slightly stunned when she heard her. Instinctively, she glanced over at Timothy. “Really?”

There wouldn't be any changes or delays, right?

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Timothy nodded. “She’s right. The surgery is going to take place by the end of this month.”

Mia lowered her gaze as she muttered, “That’s good. I hope everything goes smoothly for Grandma Laura’s surgery.”

In fact, this was also better.

Meanwhile, Maya was over the moon. Initially, she thought she completely

lost the chance. Who knew she was in favor of an opportunity?

Nonetheless, this was great news for Maya. This way, Mia would no longer be

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a threat to her.

She smirked, glancing up at Timothy as she said, “Let’s go, Tim. We have to

inform Grandma Laura about the good news.”

Mia could no longer stay when she heard her. She spun around and took the

stairs down.

A smile was plastered on Maya’s face as she watched her leave.

“Tim, let’s go.”

Timothy withdrew his gaze as he stated indifferently, “Don’t tell Grandma about this now. Otherwise, she’ll refuse to undergo surgery.”

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Maya turned sullen as she replied, “It can’t be that bad, can it? My brother’s an elite doctor.”

Back then, she cowered when Timothy was involved in the car accident. Yet now, she was saving Laura’s life by begging Dominic and Cooper to get him to operate on her.

So, what was with her not appreciating her effort at all?

Laura was so kind to Mia because she saved Timothy’s life. In this case, why

couldn’t she treat Maya better since Maya was saving her life?

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A hint of warning glinted in Timothy's eyes as he snapped, "Maya, you better not go overboard."

In an instant, Maya shrank her neck and retorted in guilt, "Tim, rest assured. I

won't do anything bad.

"However, I only managed to convince Dominic and Cooper to agree to perform the surgery because I lied that you were going to marry me. You heard what Cooper said earlier."

"I remembered agreeing on a fake engagement. This is nothing more than a deal."

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“I’m aware of that. Nonetheless, even though it’s fake, we still need a ceremony to put on a show for my brothers. Otherwise, I can’t really explain myself if they asked anything.

“After all, there’s still plenty of time until the end of this month. We can’t afford to wait if something happens to Grandma Laura.”

As Maya stared at Timothy, she was buzzing with elation. Once the engagement ceremony was carried out, it would be real. There was no way that she would fake it.

By then, her brothers would definitely side with her, and Timothy would be left

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with no choice but to marry her.

Yet, she had to remain calm now. She would do anything to ensure the engagement ceremony proceeded smoothly.

“Of course, you would carry on with your engagement according to the fixed

date,” Sharon chimed in.

With a pleased expression, she tugged Maya along as she exclaimed.

“Laura’s attending doctor called and mentioned that your brother came over.

This is good news!

“As for your engagement, I can assure you that nothing will happen. You can

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even invite your brothers over.”

Maya lowered her gaze as she flashed a gentle smile. Nevertheless, there was a complicated look in her eyes.

Mia took long, wide strides as she headed out from the hospital.

“Mia!”

Connor was waiting for her downstairs. He saw how she hurried off outside, and something was off with her expression.

Meet My Brothers by Red Thirteen chapter 156-Upon hearing Connor’s voice,

Mia suddenly recalled that Connor was waiting for her.

Swiftly, she composed herself, shifting her gaze to meet Connor’s as he approached.

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‘Connor,’ she greeted.

‘Mia, what’s the matter? Are those tears in your eyes? Did someone upset you?’ Connor inquired with concern.

Brushing off his worries, Mia replied, ‘It’s nothing serious. I visited Grandma

Laura earlier, and seeing her condition left me feeling a bit emotional.’

Mia quickly redirected the conversation, adding. ‘By the way, Connor, I was

looking for you earlier. You weren’t downstairs.’

‘Speaking of that.’ Connor began, ‘As soon as I understood what was happening. I excused myself. I got caught up in a phone call with a friend, and

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it delayed me.”

A fleeting hint of guilt flickered in Connor’s eyes.

Unbeknownst to Mia, Connor had just crossed paths with Maya downstairs.

Fortunately, Mia hadn’t descended at that moment. Otherwise, he’d be in deep trouble.

Ultimately, the six brothers had struck a deal: whoever revealed their true identity before Mia would be required to perform a dance naked!

Despite his lack of integrity, Connor was determined to avoid such a humiliating fate!

Mia nodded, her expression tinged with self-deprecation.

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“Connor, I appreciate your assistance this time, but there’s something I need to share with you. Perhaps your friend won’t need to intervene after all, I sincerely apologize.” She expressed.

As Connor pondered the recent encounter with Maya, he couldn’t shake the

suspicion that Maya might have disclosed something, considering the coincidence of Mia running into both Maya and Timothy downstairs.

With a soft sigh, Connor expressed. “It’s fine, as long as Grandma Laura’s surgery goes well.”

“Indeed, that’s my sole concern. As for everything else, it doesn’t matter to me.

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“I just regret dragging your friend into this, especially now that he won’t be

performing the surgery. I’m afraid he might be upset.”

“Don’t worry. My friend won’t be bothered.”

Connor offered her a reassuring look. “Let’s go. It’s time to head back,” he uttered.

Understanding that Mia’s primary concern was for Laura’s surgery to go smoothly, Connor was determined to reassure her and alleviate any lingering concerns.

Upon returning home, Mia pushed aside any concerns regarding Laura’s surgery.

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With Maya's brother set to perform the operation, there seemed to be little to fret about.

—

A few days later, Mia stumbled upon an intriguing entertainment headline: "Socialite Maya enjoys a delightful dinner with her future mother-in-law, showcasing the harmonious bond blossoming between the soon-to-be in-law duo."

In the accompanying photo, Maya and Sharon appeared joyous, hands intertwined and smiles adorning their faces.

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It seemed that Sharon had indeed found a prosperous heiress for a daughter–  
in–law.

Gently touching her abdomen, Mia was aware that once the waiting period at the end of the month elapsed. she could proceed with the divorce proceedings against Timothy.

“Mia, I’ve noticed you touch your stomach frequently. Is there a reason for that?”

Wilhelmina leaned in suddenly, her gaze probing. “You’re not pregnant, are

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you?”

Mia’s hand halted. “Why does touching my stomach concern you?” she quipped.

“Stop pretending. It seems you’ve put on a significant amount of weight compared to before, almost resembling a pregnancy. So, whose child are you

carrying?”

“Wilhelmina, instead of indulging in gossip, consider how to address the complaints you’re handling. If unresolved, those issues could have a detrimental impact on the entire studio.”

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Wilhelmina's expression turned cold as she marched away in her high heels.

She promptly called Shelly. saying. "Ms. Barrett, I suspect Mia might be pregnant."

Shelly chuckled on the other end. "Mia may desire to be pregnant, but the chances of that happening are slim. aren't they?"

"By the way, I have a task for you. Find a way to get Mia into trouble, preferably something linked to your designs. If you execute this well, I'll buy

you that handbag you were eyeing last time."

Wilhelmina was instantly thrilled. "Ms. Barrett, you can count on me. I'll certainly, meet your expectations!"

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After ending the call, a persistent doubt lingered in Wilhelmina's mind. Nevertheless, Mia's apparent pregnancy was hard to ignore.

With the limited number of women in the office, it became evident that Mia

had been experiencing a lapse in her menstrual cycles.

Meet My Brothers by Red Thirteen chapter 157-After ending the call, Wilhelmina cast a glance at Mia. She was determined to prove to Shelly that

Mia was

truly pregnant. However, there was no need to rush things at that moment. After a moment of contemplation, Wilhelmina opened her WhatsApp

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and playfully typed, “Hey Keegan, didn’t you mention last time that you were looking to meet a talented girl? “Interestingly, there’s a colleague in my studio who surpassed me and secured the top spot in that competition. I’ll introduce her to you later.” With everything arranged, Wilhelmina swiftly approached Felix. “Felix, we’ve just landed a design order for a luxury villa, and the client specifically asked for Mia to take charge of the project,” she announced

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coquettishly. “Alright, I’ll deliver the order to her later,” Felix remarked. With a subtle smile on her lips, Wilhelmina exited the office. Having established a connection with the Barrett family, it seemed appropriate to distance herself from Keegan. Having Mia take her place could simplify matters, shielding Wilhelmina from potential complications. With Shelly around, Keegan would find himself powerless against Wilhelmina. Soon after, Mia secured the design contract for a luxury villa. Upon dialing the client’s number, a middle-aged

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man picked up. After introducing herself, Mia asked, “Could you provide an overview of your design preferences?” “Mr. Stewart is currently occupied. If you want specifics, you’ll need to meet him in person,” came the swift. reply. “And when would be a suitable time?” “He is available tomorrow afternoon. You may come straight to the villa,” the voice instructed before promptly ending the call. Mia glanced at her phone, reflecting on how many affluent Individuals seemed to share similar traits. In this modern era, amassing wealth was undoubtedly challenging. The following

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afternoon, Mia arrived at the villa as directed. Yet, the moment she stepped inside, a sense of unease washed over her. It could have been the living room decor that didn't sit well with her, though she couldn't quite place her finger on it.

Taking a seat on the sofa, Mia awaited her appointment. Soon after, a maid approached with a tray of fruit juice. "May I-" Just as Mia began to inquire, the maid abruptly turned and walked away, leaving Mia's question hanging in the

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air. Mia held back from speaking, her gaze briefly lingering on the beverage in front of her before deciding not to consume it. With her pregnancy, she needed to be cautious in her dietary choices. As moments passed, the sun outside gradually dipped toward the western horizon. Mia felt the temperature in the living room drop noticeably. She took out her phone and dialed the client's number again, but there was no answer on the other end. Just as she contemplated leaving, a commanding voice echoed from behind, halting her in

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her tracks. “Ms. Bowen, please wait.” Turning around, Mia saw an elderly man in a wheelchair emerging from the elevator, accompanied by a tall, hefty middle-aged man standing beside him. Recognizing the voice, Mia gathered that this middle-aged man must be the individual she had spoken with over the phone. Retracing her steps, Mia greeted, “Hello, Mr. Stewart.” “I heard you secured first place in the Fleur International Design Competition. Truly, talent often accompanies beauty,” Keegan commented. Mia managed a strained

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smile, feeling uneasy about Keegan's gaze. "Please, Ms. Bowen, take a seat

and make yourself comfortable. "I couldn't help but notice you haven't indulged in the fruit spread before you. Is there something else you'd prefer?

I'd be happy to arrange an alternative for you," Keegan remarked. "It's alright,

Mr. Stewart. Here are some design sketches I've crafted. Please take a look and let me know if anything catches your eye," Mia suggested, hoping to redirect the conversation. Following that, Keegan made a swift gesture, signaling Roberto to seize the design sketches. At the same time, Keegan

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handed a business card to Mia, stating, “Ms. Bowen, you might not be familiar

with who I am. Allow me to introduce myself.”

Meet My Brothers by Red Thirteen chapter 158-Mia glanced at the name on

the business card: “CEO of Keystone Construction.”

She remembered the company well, having previously assisted Timothy in delivering some documents to them.

Back then, the president of Keystone Construction had approached Timothy

with an investment proposal for a golf course project.

Surprisingly. Timothy had turned down the offer.

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Yet, Mia later discovered that the golf course had been developed after all. She recalled overhearing Timothy discuss certain issues related to that specific piece of land.

“Ms. Bowen, I have no concerns with these design drafts—they all look promising to me,” Keegan remarked.

“Let’s shift gears for a moment. What do you enjoy doing in your free time?

What are your interests?” he continued.

Upon hearing this, Mia sensed something was amiss.

She stood up and said, “Mr. Stewart, if you haven’t settled on the design yet,

let’s discuss it when you’ve made your decision.”

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After concluding her words and attempting to leave, she discovered the door to the villa unexpectedly closed. Taking a deep breath, Mia paused briefly before turning to confront Keegan. “What’s this supposed to mean?”

“Well, Ms. Bowen, I understand women like you often have their price—varying for each, of course. Given your talents, you could command a substantial sum. “I pride myself on generosity, and as long as you meet expectations and ensure my satisfaction, we’ll get along just fine. 1

“After all, time isn’t on my side, and there’s only so much money I can spend,”

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Keegan stated.

Mia's expression hardened instantly. "I'm not interested," she retorted coldly.

"Ms. Bowen, you're already here. Why play hard to get? Patience isn't exactly

my strong suit," Keegan warned.

As Roberto approached her, Mia instinctively stepped back.

She quickly pulled out her phone, declaring, "If you come any closer, I'll call

the police."

In an instant, Roberto snatched the phone from Mia's grasp.

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Keegan's eyes narrowed coldly. "Take her upstairs and make sure her hands

and feet are tied," he instructed.

Taking a deep breath, Mia suddenly inquired, "Mr. Stewart, you're acquainted

with Timothy, aren't you?"

Keegan raised his gaze, inquiring, "What about him?"

"Well," Mia began, "about a year ago, your son approached Timothy regarding

an investment in a golf course. project.

"Unfortunately, it didn't go through due to concerns about the water quality at

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the proposed location. The land had a history of heavy industrial use and wasn't suitable for a resort transformation."

After Mia concluded her statement. Keegan motioned toward Roberto and remarked, "Ms. Bowen seems to be well-informed."

Turning his attention back to Mia, Keegan inquired, "What's your connection

with Timothy? Have you engaged in any previous dealings with him?"

"My relationship with Timothy isn't the focus here. What's crucial is that the

land has been developed into a resort, and it's been showing considerable success lately.

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“Should any issues surface, Keystone Construction might encounter serious problems, potentially leading to legal challenges for your son.  
\*Furthermore, given the financial difficulties your company has been facing since last year, the repercussions of a project failure could be...”  
Mia left her sentence unfinished, attempting to channel Timothy’s negotiating tone while grappling with an underlying anxiety.  
After all, her knowledge of Keystone Construction’s financial troubles was speculative, drawn from Timothy’s remarks.

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Sometimes, blending truth with fiction might be the most effective approach.

The atmosphere in the room suddenly became tense.

Summoning her resolve, Mia straightened her back and locked eyes with Keegan.

Breaking the silence, he finally asked. “Spill it. What’s your relationship with

Timothy?”

A faint smirk graced the corner of Mia’s mouth as she replied, “Well, Timothy

specifically instructed me not to disclose our relationship, so I’m bound to keep that confidential.

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“However, if you wish, you could contact him directly. I have his number saved in my phone.”

Meet My Brothers by Red Thirteen chapter 159-luncase

Mia’s composed demeanor stirred a in Keegan.

Without delay, Roberto took Mia’s phone and commanded, “Unlock it.”

Mia readily complied, unlocking her phone.

Following this, Keegan provided Timothy’s phone number, which

Roberto dialed directly from Mia’s phone. In no time, her phone screen lit up

with a contact name: “Scumbag.”

Observing the display, Mia cleared her throat lightly. “It’s an inside joke

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between us,” she remarked.

Roberto immediately hung up the phone, and Keegan’s demeanor grew serious. “Pass her the phone,” he

Instructed.

After retrieving her phone, Mia felt a sense of relief as the lingering anxiety

lifted. Had she successfully passed the test?

The recent ordeal had genuinely terrified her.

Nonetheless, could she confidently assume she was now in the clear?

Confronted with a moment of urgency. Mia found herself compelled to resort

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to bluffing.

Once again, Mia's phone buzzed, and Timothy's name lit up on the caller ID.

Mia's eyelid twitched in annoyance. Why was Timothy calling again?

Didn't

he have work to attend to?

Keegan glanced over and calmly remarked, "Aren't you going to pick up?"

Reluctantly, Mia answered the call, deliberately clearing her throat before saying. "Hello, dear. I apologize for the confusion earlier. I accidentally dialed

the wrong number."

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Timothy's brows furrowed on the other end. "Mia, can't you communicate like

a normal person?"

"What's that? You're asking where I am? I'm at work. A client needed me to

come over and present some design plans. I'm at Oakwood Villa. I'll come over once I'm finished." Mia quickly conveyed.

Timothy's eyes narrowed as he sensed a shift in the conversation. "Mia, what's going on?"

"Sweetheart, I have to go for now. Sending you kisses."

After Mia finished speaking, she abruptly hung up the phone and calmly faced

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Keegan. “I’m sorry, but I think I need to leave now.”

“Wait.” Keegan interjected.

Mia tensed briefly before she redirected her attention to Keegan. “Is there anything else?” she inquired.

Keegan retrieved the design plans Mia had meticulously prepared, his tone adopting a more conciliatory note. Ms. Bowen, your designs are truly excellent. Let’s proceed with this plan.

“What occurred earlier was simply a misunderstanding. Considering Mr. Barrett’s demanding schedule, any additional complications wouldn’t be in your best interest.

“Let’s agree to treat this incident as if it never happened.”

“Alright, after all the fewer complications, the better,” Mia agreed easily.

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Clutching her design plans, Mia swiftly left the villa. Once she stepped out into the open air, Mia was enveloped by the embrace of sunlight, and a soothing warmth gradually embraced her. As she wiped the sweat from her forehead, Mia couldn't help but reflect on how narrowly she had escaped a potentially dangerous situation. The encounter with Keegan had caught her off guard. Stepping outside the villa, Mia was accompanied by a lingering unease. Promptly, she sought solace on a nearby bench, seeking a moment of respite. As her hand gently rested on her belly. Mia contemplated whether the baby

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might have been startled, too.

“Well, at least your seemingly useless father still holds some value,” she mused.

While regaining her composure, a sleek black luxury car suddenly pulled up in

front of Mia. The license plate seemed vaguely familiar.

As the car door opened, Timothy emerged, his voice tinged with surprise.

“Mia!”

Startled by the unexpected arrival, Mia looked up to see Timothy, prompting

her to inquire, “What brings you here?”

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Approaching her, Timothy cast a condescending glance at Mia. “Weren’t you

the one who called me for help.

claiming to be in Oakwood Villa?”

Pausing for a moment, Mia was surprised by Timothy’s understanding of her

earlier implications.

or out.

What astonished her even more was that Timothy had genuinely sought her

In reality, Mia had strategically used that phone call as a precautionary measure.

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Unexpectedly, Keegan became apprehensive about Timothy, prompting him

to withhold any actions against

Mia.

With everything settled, Mia took a moment to ponder before responding.

“To

be honest, I didn’t need your assistance. I simply lost a dare with a friend and

ended up having to make a random call.”

Meet My Brothers by Red Thirteen chapter 160-“A dare to make a random call?” Timothy exclaimed, yanking at his tie in frustration.

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He had forsaken several million-dollar deals to hurry over, genuinely worried

about Mia, only to find out it was just a game of truth or dare.

Timothy was furious

“Mia, you’ve truly outdone yourself this time. Seriously, next time, even if you’re on your deathbed, just save yourself the trouble of calling me!”

With

that, he angrily turned around and stormed back to his car.

Mia hesitated to bring up her unsettling encounter with Keegan at the villa.

She couldn’t shake off the feeling that Timothy would ridicule her if she decided to share the details.

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At that moment, Mia spotted a luxurious car making its way out of the villa community.

As the car window rolled down, she found herself locking eyes with Keagan, who shot a glaring look in her direction.

Instantly, a wave of apprehension swept over Mia.

She hurried over to Timothy, who was on the verge of getting into his car, and

wrapped her arms around his waist, embracing him tightly. “Darling, please don’t be upset,” she pleaded.

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Timothy froze by the car door, shooting a questioning glance at Mia.

“What  
are you up to now?”

With a forced smile. Mia responded, “I was just teasing you earlier. Let’s  
get in  
the car and talk.”

Timothy leaned against the car door, lowering his gaze to meet hers.

“Explain  
yourself!”

Mia’s eyes shifted toward Keegan’s car, which was parked just outside the  
villa, overwhelmed.

She deliberately reached out, giving Timothy a gentle pat on his backside.

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“This isn’t the right place to talk. Let’s continue our conversation in the car.”

Timothy’s expression grew tense, his eyes registering pure shock. He couldn’t

believe Mia had made such a bold move.

Caught off guard, Timothy found himself unexpectedly shoved into the car by

Mia, his forehead colliding with the window in the process.

Gritting his teeth in frustration, he exclaimed, “Mia, have you completely lost

your mind?”

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Ignoring Timothy's outburst, Mia hunched down to enter the car, forcefully slamming the door shut.

Leaning in close to the car window, Mia kept a watchful eye on the unfolding situation outside.

She watched as Keegan's car drove away.

Mia's tension eased as she released a sigh of relief. Had she successfully deceived Keegan this time?

She turned her head, locking eyes with Timothy once more, his expression now a mix of anger and disbelief.

Clearing her throat, Mia composed herself and suggested, "Why don't you

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head back to your office? Give me a lift on the way, will you?”  
Frustrated. Timothy yanked off his tie. “You want me to give you a ride?  
Why  
don’t you sprout wings and fly yourself? Mia, I’ve never encountered a  
woman  
as shameless as you!”  
“Well, now you have,” Mia retorted.  
Timothy angrily kicked the seat in front of him, frustration evident in his  
voice  
as he roared, “Both of you, get out!”  
With that, Rodger and Heath promptly exited the car.  
Sensing imminent danger, Mia also contemplated getting out of the car.

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However, Timothy seized her by the collar, forcefully yanking her back inside.

Confronting Timothy, Mia blinked innocently. “Didn’t you mention you were

occupied? I won’t disturb you any longer. I can simply take a cab myself.”

“Do you think you can just fool around and casually walk away? Where did

you get that audacity?”

“It’s simply part of my nature to be bold. Do you believe me or not?”

“Mia, enough with the backtalk! I won’t hesitate to put you in your place!”

Timothy exclaimed, gripping Mia’s chin tightly.

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“Come on, speak up. Your constant attempts to deceive me won’t cut it.

Just

because Grandma’s on your side doesn’t mean I won’t take action against you,” he continued.

Terrified, Mia felt a cold sweat break out on her back, and she hastily apologized, “I’m sorry!”

Timothy’s hand came to an abrupt stop. “If apologies could solve everything,

why would we even need the police?”

“What do you want then? So what if I touched your butt? You can just touch

mine back!”

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Mia's words lingered, casting an unsettling silence inside the car.

Meet My Brothers by Red Thirteen

Meet My Brothers by Red Thirteen chapter 161-Timothy gazed into Mia's innocent eyes, feeling as though he were the antagonist in this scene.

In a fleeting moment, an impulsive urge welled up within him.

With his eyes fixed on the corner of her lips, Timothy leaned forward, choosing to silence Mia with a kiss in the hope of putting an end to her protests.

Mia found herself momentarily caught off guard.

What was he doing?

Attempting to resist Timothy's advances, Mia tried to push him away.

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However, Timothy remained unyielding, making it impossible for her to break free.

Mia's eyes widened as she stared at Timothy.

His narrow eyes, reminiscent of the sea, appeared as if they could entirely engulf her.

Within the confines of the car, the temperature surged noticeably.

Mia tightly clutched Timothy's shirt, but her grasp seemed feeble, caught in a

struggle between resistance and surrender.

Finally, she bit his lip, causing Timothy to release a muffled groan and pause

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momentarily.

His eyes, now tinged with red veins, locked intensely onto hers.

Within the car, a profound silence took hold.

Wiping the corner of his mouth, Timothy shattered the silence with a piercing

question. “Did you bite me?”

Mia locked eyes with him defiantly, her lips pursed. “So what if I did?”

Who

gave you the right to kiss me out of the blue? That’s harassment! You’re acting like a rogue!”

A soft chuckle escaped Timothy’s lips. “So, now you understand what it feels

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like to be harassed? I merely offered you a taste of your own medicine.

Are

you struggling to handle it?” he quipped.

His retort momentarily silenced Mia, but she wasn’t ready to concede.

Stubbornly, she countered. “But I just touched you briefly, and y—you

kissed

me! That’s different!”

“From a legal standpoint, both actions carry the same criminal implications.

There’s no distinction.” Timothy’s deep voice resonated, with his eyebrows

raised slightly, and a hint of emotion flickered in his eyes.

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Feeling uneasy in this position, Mia shifted her body and, blushing, requested,

“So, could you let go of me now?”

With one hand resting on the car door, Timothy had Mia cornered. “You did

bite me, though. Do you have any suggestions on how we can settle that score?”

Mia was furious. Wasn’t Timothy being completely unreasonable?

Finally reaching her limit, Mia shot him an exasperated look.

“Mr. Barrett, that’s enough. I’m not here to provide additional opportunities for

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you to assert yourself. Let's consider things settled after what transpired," she

retorted.

Clutching her delicate wrist. Timothy sneered, "What's this? You're hesitant

with me but so open with other men?"

Timothy's words hit Mia like a painful blow, causing her to tremble and a pang

of hurt to resonate in her heart.

In Timothy's eyes, Mia was consistently seen as a gold digger—an individual

who, in his perception, would stop at nothing for money.

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Resigned to the persistent label, Mia decided to embrace it more fully. Lowering her gaze, Mia quipped with a smirk, “Certainly, as long as the new love measures up, there’s no ex that can’t be forgotten.” In response, Timothy chuckled with exasperation. “Remember, we’re still in the waiting period for our divorce. It’s not finalized yet.” Timothy’s eyes lingered on Mia’s seemingly innocent face, noting the subtle swelling of her lips. His gaze deepened as he observed her lips. Unexpectedly, the sensation of their kiss wasn’t as unpleasant as he had anticipated. Perhaps he didn’t dislike it as much as he had initially thought.

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“Is the bar for dating set so high now? Does it have to be with someone unattached? What’s wrong with someone going through a divorce?” Mia retorted.

“Mia, I never realized how sharp-witted you are. It’s a shame you’re not on a variety show.”

“Really? I couldn’t agree more. With my exceptional qualities, I see the period after our divorce as an opportunity for a fresh start.

“Mr. Barrett, your enlightening perspective is truly appreciated,” Mia quipped.

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Ever since broaching the topic of divorce with Mia, Timothy's daily frustration levels had soared.

Meet My Brothers by Red Thirteen chapter 162-Suddenly, a sharp knock echoed on the car window.

Wearing a stern expression, Timothy rolled it down and asked, "Who is It?"

"I'm the traffic officer for this area, and parking is not permitted here. I recommend relocating to a nearby hotel. \*A middle-aged man in a bright fluorescent uniform asserted, appearing well aware of the situation.

Seeing the uniformed officer, Mia instinctively covered her face, overwhelmed

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with embarrassment.

Timothy straightened up, his serious demeanor unwavering.

Responding swiftly, Rodger and Heath rushed over, efficiently moving the car

from its unauthorized spot.

Yet, an air of awkwardness lingered inside the car.

Rodger and Heath wished they could simply vanish at that moment.

Timothy bore a stern expression, his appearance disheveled. His tie was carelessly tossed aside, and his collar hung loosely, marked by creases on his shoulders.

In a corner, Mia took a moment to collect herself. She discreetly glanced at

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Heath in the passenger seat and whispered, “Just drop me off at the subway station up ahead.”

Heath hesitated, shooting a cautious glance at Timothy seated behind him. Without Timothy’s approval, he refrained from making any abrupt stops. Meanwhile, Mia subtly observed Timothy beside her, noting his resolute and stern expression.

With a commanding tone, Timothy directed, “Pull over, please. You’re aware that fuel comes at a cost, right?”

Shortly afterward, the car came to a stop outside the subway station.

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Without looking back, Mia swiftly opened the car door and stepped into the subway station.

It was only after Mia's silhouette had vanished that Timothy withdrew his gaze.

Seated in the passenger seat, Heath couldn't resist stealing glances behind, appearing to have something to say but hesitated.

Frowning, Timothy urged, "Spit it out."

"Mr. Barrett, do you need to go to the hospital to treat that wound?" Heath finally asked.

It was then that Timothy recalled Mia had bitten the corner of his mouth.

He glanced at his phone, noting a small cut on his lip that seemed far from

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accidental.

Taking a deep breath, Timothy tossed his phone aside.

With a stern expression, he ordered, “Find out why Mia went to Oakwood Villa.”

Timothy found Mia’s earlier reaction odd, fueling his determination to unravel

the mystery of whom she had Mia took the subway back to the studio.

She appeared visibly unsettled, primarily due to Timothy’s impulsive actions.

The awkward kiss they had shared left her with swollen lips. Timothy’s kissing

style lacked finesse, almost like he was nibbling on something.

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Had he not picked up any kissing techniques during his time with Maya? Abruptly, Wilhelmina approached. “Mia, why are you back so soon? You don’t

look too well,” she remarked.

In response, Mia raised her gaze, scrutinizing Wilhelmina. “You seem rather

surprised that I could return this early. Or did you already anticipate that I wouldn’t be able to come back today?”

Had it not been for the impromptu decision to employ Timothy as a bluff earlier, Mia wouldn’t have been able to leave Oakwood Villa.

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It was peculiar how a prestigious design order landed directly in Mia's hands.

After all, securing such an order proved to be a substantial deal for the studio,

as it was highly sought after by everyone due to the allure of a higher commission.

Wilhelmina's earlier words carried an unusual undertone, adding to the intrigue.

Confronted by Mia's probing question, Wilhelmina appeared somewhat uneasy. "I was just curious. Why are you so on edge? Are you feeling paranoid or something?"

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After uttering those words, Wilhelmina swiftly exited the scene and headed

directly to the pantry area.

Without delay, she dialed Shelly's number, reporting. "Ms. Barrett, everything

seems to be taken care of. Mia has made significant progress with Keegan.

"Although they haven't slept together yet, her swollen lips suggest that it's only a matter of time."

Meet My Brothers by Red Thirteen chapter 163-"Excellent work! Feel free to

head to the store and pick up your handbag. I'll personally inform the manager

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about your visit.”

“Thank you, Ms. Barrett. If there’s anything else in the future, you can count

on me. After all I’ve got some unfinished business with Mia.”

After concluding the call Wilhelmina was thrilled, eagerly anticipating the handbag that would soon be hers.

She expressed to Shelly that once Mia entered Oakside Villa, leaving unscathed seemed unlikely.

Despite Mia’s early return, her visibly kissed–swollen lips hinted at a romantic encounter.

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In light of these events. Wilhelmina was enthusiastic about having Mia take

over attending to Keegan.

In the afternoon, Mia found herself distracted. With every sip of water, the sensation on her lips involuntarily

triggered memories of the kiss she shared with Timothy.

She couldn't help but cover her face, grappling with the feeling of losing her

sanity.

"No, I need to stay composed." She urged herself.

Pouring herself a glass of cold water, Mia questioned how she could harbor

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any feelings for Timothy.

The following day, Mia headed straight to the studio after attending her morning classes.

It didn't take long before a commotion erupted outside, capturing everyone's attention.

A commanding voice cut through the air, demanding. "Where's Mia? Drag this

woman out to see me! It's

unbelievable that someone so young dares to cozy up to my father.

"My dad, at his age, is practically halfway into the grave, and you still dare to

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flirt with him! Can you handle the consequences if anything happens to him?”

Responding to the disturbance, Mia stepped out and was greeted by the sight

of a young woman dressed in designer clothes whose facial features struck her as oddly familiar.

Mia was taken aback by the uncanny resemblance of the woman before her to

Keegan, whom she had

encountered at Oakwood Villa just the day before.

Ridden with guilt, Wilhelmina quietly located a hiding spot nearby and seized

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the opportunity to slip out of the studio without being noticed.

Having indulged in drug use during her time with Keegan, Wilhelmina hadn't expected to be confronted by his children and believed it was wise to keep a low profile for a while.

\*So, you must be Mia," Fiona remarked with an air of arrogance and disdain.

"How shameless! Does your Despite the accusatory tone, Mia remained composed and countered. "Miss, if you're going to make such serious accusations, you need to provide evidence."

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“You’re the true drama queen here. It likely runs in your entire family!”

Fiona

retorted sharply.

Mia sneered, “I’m simply giving you a taste of your own medicine. Why are

you so angry? If you persist in causing a scene, I have to call the police.”

“Call the police? Go ahead. Once we’re at the station, I’ll make sure you’re

arrested! Let’s investigate the drugs you’ve been using on my dad. The doctor

warned that those substances could harm him!”

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As Mia recollected the unsettling incident from the previous day, she found it hard to believe that Keegan was involved in such activities. Nevertheless, it had nothing to do with her. Why should she fear involving the police?

At that moment, Felix entered. “Excuse me, miss, there seems to be a misunderstanding. There’s no one like that in my studio. Is there some confusion?”

“What confusion? Mia, do you dare deny visiting my dad’s villa yesterday?”

Mia nodded. “I did go, but solely for work purposes.”

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Fiona couldn't help but chuckle. "What kind of work? You obviously went to the villa to flirt with my dad! His mansion doesn't require any renovations. Stop making excuses!" she retorted.

Felix interjected. "We have records of this design order on our end. Ms. Bowen went to your father's mansion following the specifications. It's a standard part of our workflow.

"If you're going to defame my colleague over this, we reserve the right to pursue legal action."

"Legal action? Please, you're just a bunch of lowly workers—what right do you

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even have?” Fiona scoffed.

Felix’s expression turned cold. “While we are employees, the female designers in my studio earn their living. based on their skills. They are not inferior to anyone. Please leave immediately.”

Meet My Brothers by Red Thirteen chapter 164-“Fine, if that’s how you all

want to behave, just wait and see!” Fiona grumbled before storming out. With Fiona’s departure, a sense of calm returned to the studio. However, Mia

couldn’t shake the feeling of her colleagues’ peculiar stares, leaving her somewhat uneasy.

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Breaking the silence. Felix suggested, “How about we all disperse? I’ll take responsibility for safeguarding the rights of our female employees in the company.” Feeling relieved, Mia expressed her gratitude. “Thank you, Felix, for believing in me.” “Of course, I have complete faith in you. Work situations can be tricky, but I’ll take charge of this matter. We can forgo this design order.” Felix assured. Nodding, Mia agreed. “I apologize for any inconvenience. Nonetheless, I have already secured the design order.

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Felix's expression betrayed a hint of surprise. "Really?" Caught off guard by the unfolding events, Felix was taken aback to learn that Mia had confirmed the design order yesterday.

"Yes, it's true, but there's nothing shady about it." Mia clarified. She purposefully refrained from delving into the details of her visit, deciding against disclosing Timothy's involvement. After all, bringing it up would be disadvantageous in this situation.

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After a brief pause, Felix smiled and replied, “I understand. It just underscores your capability. After all you’re the renowned Mia Bowen.” Despite managing a forced smile, an underlying unease persisted within Mia. As she returned to her seat, her emotions remained far from uplifting. The persistent twitching of her eyelid only intensified her niggling feeling that this matter was far from over. The next day, the studio was flooded with complaints, coinciding with a troubling revelation on Twitter.

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“Allegations against Mia Bowen, a renowned designer, suggest she secures

high-end home design contracts through questionable means.

“This led to a confrontation with the client’s family after allegedly administering

drugs to an elderly client.” This post swiftly went viral, accumulating a significant number of retweets.

In the morning, Mia was abruptly awakened by Gina. “Mia, are you still sleeping? Hurry and check what I sent you! Someone is spreading false rumors about you!” Upon hearing Gina’s urgent words, Mia instantly snapped

awake.

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She swiftly grabbed her phone, and as her eyes scanned the headline, anger coursed through her, causing her hands to tremble. Clicking on it to inspect the contents, Mia turned pale with fury, exclaiming. “None of these allegations are true!”

“I understand, but in today’s age, netizens tend to trust what they can see. Mia, have you offended someone? Should we consider involving the authorities?” “I have a hunch about who might be responsible.” Following the call, Mia took a brief pause to compose herself.

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She reached out to Nathan. On the other end, his voice was raspy, suggesting he might have just woken up. Suddenly, Mia recalled the time difference between Nord City and Bern City, and a pang of guilt swept over her. “Nathan, sorry for disturbing your sleep.” “Hey, Mia. No worries at all. What’s going on? Do you need my help urgently?” Mia hesitated for a moment and then asked, “Nathan, could you assist me in identifying someone’s Twitter ID

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right now?” “Sure, whose ID are we checking?” Mia sent him the tweet, stating, “I want to find out who this anonymous poster is.” Nathan’s lingering

drowsiness swiftly vanished when he saw the headline, his face pale.

“Don’t worry, Mia. I’ve got this!” he reassured.

Who dared to spread rumors and tarnish Mia’s reputation?

Nathan swiftly rose from his bed, opened his computer, and started calling each of his five brothers one by one.

On the other end, voices filled with irritation erupted. “Nathan, it better be something urgent! Why on earth are you calling so early?” “Nathan, have you

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lost your mind? Why the early morning call? Are you on a mission to ruin my sleep?” Nathan’s expression remained impassive. “Someone is spreading malicious rumors about Mia. It’s blown up into a major headline, causing quite

a commotion in Bern City.

“Mia reached out to me for help, asking me to trace the identity of the anonymous poster. Can you sleep soundly while knowing Mia is going through this?

Meet My Brothers by Red Thirteen chapter 165-Nathan’s words instantly triggered an alert among the brothers on the other end of the phone.

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As Dominic read the tweet, an uneasy expression settled on his face. “Jason, does your legal team know what steps to take?” he inquired. With a stern demeanor, Jason replied. “I’m aware. It’s crucial that we apprehend the anonymous poster and put them behind bars. I won’t tolerate such behavior.” Without delay, the five brothers embarked on an investigation, determined to unravel the truth behind the malicious rumor. Following the call with Nathan, Mia found herself restless, grappling with a pounding headache that robbed her of a tranquil night’s rest.

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In the morning, she freshened up and headed to work, considering it was a weekend with no scheduled classes.

As Mia stepped into the office, she noticed a significant number of people present.

However, upon entering the studio, an unusual silence enveloped the space,

creating a somewhat awkward atmosphere.

Mia was aware of the reason behind this unsettling ambiance.

Wilhelmina sneered, “Well, well, well, look who decided to show up. Are you

oblivious to the widespread rumors surrounding you?”

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“Many studios are reaching out, questioning whether our studio’s success is

merely a result of female designers trading favors.

“How do you suggest the women in our studio maintain their dignity amid such

speculation?” Regaining her composure, Mia responded, “Just like yesterday,

these allegations are nothing but baseless rumors. I’ll be reporting it to the police.” Upon the mention of “reporting to the police“, a tinge of guilt crossed

Wilhelmina’s expression. After all she was the one who had drugged Keegan.

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Yet now, she was deflecting all the blame onto Mia.

If Mia decided to make a report, would Wilhelmina's actions eventually come to light?

Nonetheless, with Shelly in mind, Wilhelmina felt a surge of confidence—perhaps there wouldn't be any complications, would there?

Without hesitation, Wilhelmina fired back. “Who can say for certain? What if

it's just a case of crying wolf?

Your presence in the studio is undeniably affecting us.

“So, what's your suggestion for dealing with this situation?” The rest of the

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female designers mirrored equally solemn expressions. Indeed, rumors like these were precisely what women feared the most.

Stepping out of his office, Felix wore a displeased expression. “Mia, I didn’t

anticipate this situation escalating to such an extent. It’s having a significantly

adverse impact on the studio.” Mia gave him an apologetic glance and reassured him. “I understand. I’ll take care of it.” Suddenly, her phone

rang,

and for a fleeting moment, she assumed it was Nathan calling.

However, upon checking the caller ID, it turned out to be a call from Timothy.

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This unexpected twist caught Mia off guard. She glanced up at Felix and said,

“Sorry, I need to take this call.” Entering the pantry area, she answered, “Hello?” \*Is making headlines your new hobby, Mia?” Timothy quipped sarcastically.

Seated in his office chair, Timothy scrutinized the trending topic on his computer screen with narrowed eyes, a hint of coldness in his gaze.

The headline revolved around Oakside Villa, the same place Mia had contacted him a few days ago without offering a clear explanation.

Indeed, it appeared that the occurrences at the villa that day went beyond a simple game of truth or dare.

There was a momentary silence on the other end of the phone as Mia

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muttered, “Do you think I wanted to do this?” “So, you’re backing down now?”

Weren’t you the one full of courage back then? Truth or dare? Let’s keep the

story going!” Timothy shot back.

Despite his persistent efforts to uncover the truth, he came up short.

However, the trending topic now made one thing evident—Mia’s call that day

was a cry for help!

It seemed that she had a tendency to be ambiguous with her words.

With a smirk, Mia retorted, “So, now you know. If your intention was to mock

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me with that call, consider your mission accomplished.” With that decisive declaration, she abruptly ended the call.

Timothy was furious. Glancing at his phone and then at Heath beside him, he

exclaimed, “Is she really that heartless? I shouldn’t have reached out to her!”

Meet My Brothers by Red Thirteen chapter 166-Timothy had already extended

an olive branch to Mia. Why didn’t she simply express her need for help?

During her previous call seeking Timothy’s assistance, she had employed sweet talk, consistently addressing him as “darling” to win him over.

With a hint of hesitation, Heath asked, “So, Mr. Barrett, what should we do

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now?” “Must I spell it out for you? Get that trending topic taken down!”

Timothy snapped, his frustration evident.

Heath immediately complied, but before long, feedback from his subordinates reached him.

Heath seemed perplexed as he reported, “Mr. Barrett, there’s already been a

request for the removal of the trending topic on their end, and the popularity

has dwindled.” Wearing a stern expression, Timothy inquired, “Who made the

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request?” “It was Mr. Linden Lane from Nord City, also known as Liam.”

Upon

hearing that name. Timothy’s mood turned sour. “Why are you just

standing

there? Keep investigating who’s behind all of this.” For Timothy, the

removal

of a trending topic held little significance.

After all, being in Bern City, what revelations could Linden, who resided

in

Nord City, possibly uncover?

Following the call, Mia returned to the office area, only to be greeted by

discontented expressions from her colleagues.

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As she approached her desk, Wilhelmina voiced her frustration. “Mia, you’ve got some nerve showing up to work today. “We had to put in overtime this weekend because of your actions, and your reputation has dragged us into this mess! Don’t you think an apology is in order?” Mia looked up, meeting the eyes of both Wilhelmina and her other colleagues. “I extend my sincere apologies for any inconvenience caused by this situation. “Nonetheless, it’s due to someone spreading malicious rumors about me. I am

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determined to conduct a thorough investigation to unveil the truth behind this matter.” Wilhelmina felt a slight unease, but with Shelly’s recent reassurance in mind, she regained her confidence.

Even if Mia were to reveal the truth, it appeared there was little she could do to cause harm.

After all, Wilhelmina had Shelly firmly supporting her—a formidable member of the esteemed Barrett family. What chance did a mere nobody like Mia have

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against such influence?

With a contemptuous sneer, Wilhelmina remarked, “Words can be deceptive.

Who’s to say you’re not crying.

wolf?

“Mia, if you fail to handle this matter appropriately, the women in our studio

won’t let you off lightly.” Grace Fallon, a designer who typically shared a good

rapport with Wilhelmina, chimed in, “Exactly!

Because of your actions, my potential suitor caught wind of it and immediately

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distanced himself from me.

You must take full responsibility for this!” “Yeah, the news was spreading like

wildfire on social media, probably with millions of views and shares by now,

right?” As Wilhelmina opened her phone and started searching the headlines,

she exclaimed, “Wha, why is the Tweet no longer available? It was the top trending just a moment ago. How could it suddenly vanish?”

Simultaneously,

the other female colleagues unlocked their phones, echoing the sentiment.

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“Indeed, it’s gone. It’s no longer on the trending list!” Instinctively, Wilhelmina blurted out. “How is that possible?” She quickly realized she had let something slip and added, “I mean, just a moment ago, it was trending at number one. How did it suddenly change? It seems very strange!” Mia gazed at her with a cunning smile and remarked, “Are you implying that the post being taken down isn’t a relief, or do you secretly wish for this situation to spiral even more out of control?” Observing Wilhelmina’s response, Mia became increasingly

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convinced of Wilhelmina's involvement in the situation.

Wilhelmina swiftly composed herself and retorted, "Mia, don't speak nonsense. Why would I want this situation to escalate?" Just then, Wilhelmina's phone rang, and she quickly glanced at the caller ID, her eyes

anxiously scanning the surroundings.

Meet My Brothers by Red Thirteen chapter 167-Observing Wilhelmina's phone, Mia asked, "Who's calling you? Why aren't you answering?"

"Why

does it matter to you who I speak with?" Wilhelmina retorted.

Dismissing Mia, she hastily stepped outside to take the call. "Ms. Barrett, is

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there something wrong?” “Why did the trending Tweet lose traction? What happened with your strategy? Weren’t you bragging about having a well-connected friend in the media?

“If you can’t handle this minor issue, you might as well forget about the Chanel

bag you were eyeing yesterday.

\*\*Shelly retorted.

“I apologize, Ms. Barrett. I’ll make a call right away to gather more information.” After ending the call, Wilhelmina hastily dialed her friend’s number, but there was no answer.

Impatience welled up within her. “Why isn’t anyone answering? Have they all

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decided to ignore me out of the blue?” She wondered.  
“So, you’re the one behind this,” Mia exclaimed abruptly, standing close and attentively listening to every word from Wilhelmina.  
With a cold expression, Mia locked eyes with Wilhelmina and asserted, “Let’s be honest, Wilhelmina. You were the one who administered the drugs to Keegan, weren’t you?”  
“And now, you’re shifting all the blame onto me!” As Mia concluded her words, Wilhelmina’s face paled with fear. “Mia, when did you get here? And why were

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you eavesdropping on my phone call?” “Since you mentioned Ms. Barrett, I’ve been here all along. So, tell me—did you and Shelly hatch this scheme together?” bly wasn’t Mia’s suspicions from the start seemed to be on point. If Shelly was implicated, Maya probably innocent either. Initially disconcerted, Wilhelmina swiftly regained her composure upon noticing the absence of people around. “Mia, I have no idea what you’re talking about. I did speak with Ms. Barrett just now, but it was regarding design matters. Could there be a misunderstanding?” As long as there was no evidence, Wilhelmina wasn’t

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about to confess to anything.

“Wilhelmina, perhaps you should take a look in the mirror; the guilt on your face is unmistakable.

“I’m on the verge of contacting the police, and there’s a possibility you could face imprisonment for spreading false rumors. I won’t hesitate to pursue legal action against you.” Mia maintained a firm grip on her phone, her gaze unwavering as she confronted the visibly uneasy Wilhelmina.

“Unless you want the police involved, you must publicly clarify this situation

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and offer an apology immediately!

“Mia exclaimed.

The mention of the police intensified Wilhelmina’s unease, and she felt a lump in her throat.

Sensing Wilhelmina’s hesitation, Mia spoke up. “Just tell me who’s behind all

this, and I won’t hold you accountable.” With Shelly and Maya pushing the

boundaries, Mia wasn’t going to turn a blind eye to their actions.

Nonetheless, Mia needed Wilhelmina’s cooperation to navigate the situation.

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Just then, Felix walked over.

Upon spotting him, Wilhelmina hastily defended herself, saying, “Why should I

apologize? This has nothing to do with me. I’m not the one responsible for this

mess.” “Wilhelmina, this is your last chance to come clean,” Mia retorted.

“What do you mean by ‘last chance’? I’m not the one who orchestrated any of

this Mia, your inappropriate actions have led us to this point!

“Perhaps it would be wise for you to publicly clarify that this is a personal matter, entirely unrelated to our studio, and extend a sincere apology to all the

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women on our team!” A subtle chill flickered in Mia’s eyes. She decided to refrain from pushing further, sensing Wilhelmina’s uncooperative stance. At that moment, Felix intervened. “Alright, enough of the quarreling. I’ve already reported the incident to the police, and they will take care of it. “Let’s exercise some patience in the coming days. I’m confident the truth will be revealed soon.” Wilhelmina couldn’t shake off the anxiety triggered by the mention of the police. Unbeknownst to her, Mia had recently received information from Nathan, exposing the true identity behind the false accusations.

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Armed with this newfound knowledge, Mia felt compelled to approach Wilhelmina and offer her a second chance, acknowledging that Wilhelmina had unwittingly been manipulated as a pawn in the situation. However, Wilhelmina's brazen attitude compelled Mia to rethink the idea of extending that opportunity.

Meet My Brothers by Red Thirteen chapter 168-Mia locked eyes with Felix, declaring. "Felix, I've identified the person responsible for the smear campaign against me." Surprised, Felix asked. "Who is it?" Upon hearing this,

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Wilhelmina appeared uneasy. “Mia, without concrete evidence, it’s best to refrain from making baseless accusations,” she cautioned.

Mia’s lips curled into a wry smile. “Don’t worry, Felix. I’ll personally clarify

everything this afternoon, ensuring it won’t bring any negative repercussions

to the studio.” Felix hesitated for a moment before saying, “Mia, if you’re aware of who’s responsible, you can trust me with the information. I’ll assist

you in resolving the matter.” “It’s alright. You’ll find out later this afternoon,”

Mia replied before returning to her workstation.

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Taking out her phone, she messaged Nathan, “Nathan, could you do me a favor?” Nathan responded promptly. “Go on.” “Could you please send these videos and photos to Keegan’s children for me?” Mia’s gaze briefly swept over Wilhelmina, who had just entered the room with Felix. With Wilhelmina having missed the chance to mend things with Mia, Mia felt no obligation to extend politeness toward her. As noon approached, Mia found herself alone at her desk, enjoying her lunch.

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It was evident that her colleagues, with Wilhelmina leading the charge, were intentionally excluding her.

Nonetheless, Mia paid little attention to the petty behavior of her colleagues.

After all, an intriguing drama was set to unfold in the afternoon.

She swiftly reassured her family through a message in their group chat.

“I’m

alright. I’ll have this s the afternoon. You guys don’t need to worry about me.”

Little did they know, Nathan had already come to her aid.

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sorted out in In Nord City, Dominic's day turned somber upon discovering the

groundless rumors surrounding Mia.

Without delay, he mobilized his team to investigate Keegan's background and

organized an acquisition team headed for Bern City.

Dominic found it unsettling that someone had the audacity to tarnish Mia's reputation by baselessly claiming her involvement with an older man for financial gain.

Indeed, those who dared to misuse their power against Mia were on the brink

of facing the consequences.

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Dominic contacted his subordinates, issuing a clear directive. “Ensure the stocks of this company drop significantly within a day.

“In the next three days, go all out to acquire the company, utilizing any means

necessary.” Meanwhile, Jason promptly gathered his legal team, launching lawsuits against the individuals at the forefront of spreading false rumors and

tarnishing Mia’s reputation.

Certainly, no one would be exempt from legal action.

In a public statement, Linden declared, “Allow me to introduce Mia Bowen, the

most important person in my life.

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“She is pure, kind, and utterly adorable! To those spreading rumors, may your entire family face the consequences!” The official announcement from Linden promptly overshadowed the preceding negative news. After all, the prior rumors were mere speculations, with no responses from the involved parties.

Now, with Linden confirming his relationship with Mia, the rumors were conclusively debunked.

Fans of Linden swiftly rallied behind the couple, applauding his integrity for making such a public declaration.

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“Wow, he’s a real man for stepping up and setting the record straight for his girlfriend!” “My admiration for Mr. Lane has grown even more. He’s truly a man of integrity!” Mia quickly came across the official announcement from Linden. It caught her off guard—was she mentioned in his announcement? Despite the rumors now seemingly leaning in her favor, she couldn’t help but wonder if this was positive development. a She sent a message to Liam on WhatsApp. “Liam, did you arrange for

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Linden to make the announcement?” Amidst Liam’s ongoing reprimand by his manager, he remained composed as he replied on his phone. “Yes. this way, no one will believe the earlier rumors anymore.” Mia found herself grappling with a range of emotions. She hadn’t expected Liam to seek Linden’s help, and it was even more astonishing that Linden agreed. Nonetheless, Mia decided to withhold any response until she could provide concrete evidence and offer a comprehensive explanation. Upon learning about Linden’s announcement, Mia’s colleagues in the studio

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displayed somewhat unusual reactions.

Felix stepped out of the office, his expression complex as he observed Mia.

“Mia, is it true that you’re in a relationship with Linden?”

Meet My Brothers by Red Thirteen chapter 169-Mia let out a faint sigh.

“No,

Linden simply did me a favor, that’s all,” she murmured.

Indeed, the ambiguous announcement from Linden worked like a charm.

Felix’s eyes carried a discerning gaze. “Mia, I never thought you’d be acquainted with Linden!” he exclaimed.

Mia shot a glance at Wilhelmina, who wore a displeased expression.

“Honestly, having Linden’s assistance doesn’t hold much significance, you

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know,” Mia remarked with a touch of sarcasm.

Upon hearing this, Wilhelmina couldn't help but feel a pang of jealousy. After all, she was no less accomplished than Mia, so why did Mia seem to have such great connections, even rubbing shoulders with the renowned Linden Lane?

Mia checked the time, noting that their guests should be arriving soon. Offering a strained smile to Wilhelmina, Mia assured, “Felix, don't worry. I'll

explain everything later.” “Mia, if you have evidence. Just present it,”

Felix

suggested, his tone tinged with suspicion.

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“It’s not the right time yet.” Wilhelmina scoffed coldly, “Mia, you keep insisting you have evidence, yet you’re withholding it. Who would believe your words?”

Linden is just an actor, after all.

“In the chaotic entertainment industry, he probably slept with countless wealthy ladies and old men to attain his current position. Just because Linden

supports you doesn’t mean you can clear your name.” “Wilhelmina, your breath stinks. Did you forget to brush your teeth this morning? Linden has come this far based on his talent.

“You’re just spreading baseless rumors. Didn’t your mother teach you any

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decency?” Mia retorted.

She wasn't going to tolerate anyone tarnishing Linden's reputation. After all,

Liam served as Linden's stunt double, and both of them had invested significant effort over the years.

Raising her voice, Wilhelmina shot back, “Oh, getting defensive, aren't you?”

Could it be that I've hit a nerve?” Mia took a deep breath. Suddenly, she felt

that certain individuals didn't deserve any sympathy at all.

As a fellow woman, Mia had extended multiple chances for Wilhelmina to come clean and be open about the situation.

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Nevertheless, with this impending evidence about to circulate on the internet, Wilhelmina might as well wave goodbye to her reputation for the rest of her life.

Indeed, some individuals simply didn't deserve a chance, and Wilhelmina served as a prime example of such a malicious woman.

Turning to Felix, Mia declared, "Felix, I think you're right. I'll upload the evidence online right now, and that should bring the truth to light." Felix nodded in agreement. "Sounds like a good idea." Putting on a show of confidence, Wilhelmina challenged, "Go ahead, upload it. Let's all take a

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look.” Deep down, Wilhelmina was convinced that Mia was fabricating lies. If there were evidence, Mia would have presented it long ago. How could Mia remain so composed and wait until now? Wilhelmina was certain Mia was attempting to deceive her, but she wouldn’t be fooled! At that very moment, several imposing figures stormed into the studio. The woman at the forefront of the group appeared oddly familiar—indeed, it was Fiona, the daughter of Keegan, who had visited earlier. Wilhelmina couldn’t help but chuckle, her face adorned with a smug expression. “Mia, it looks like someone’s here to see you..

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or to avoid any “You did claim to have evidence, right? I’d suggest clearing things up sooner rather than later to unnecessary trouble.” Mia’s lips curled into a cold smirk as she retorted, “Oh, is that how you see it? I believe the one who needs to explain might not be me after all.” “Not you? Who else could it be? Of course, it’s you!” Wilhelmina fixed her gaze on the advancing Fiona, a momentary flicker of unease passing across her expression. Nevertheless. Wilhelmina swiftly regained her composure, confident that

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Fiona held Mia responsible for the situation.

With a triumphant air, she addressed Fiona, saying, “Just moments ago, Mia

was boasting about having evidence to prove her innocence.” Before she could savor her words, Fiona abruptly delivered a resounding slap to Wilhelmina’s face.

Stunned, Wilhelmina stammered, “W–Why did you hit me?”

Meet My Brothers by Red Thirteen chapter 170-“Because you’re a despicable

person, that’s why!” Fiona declared.

Wilhelmina screamed in protest, “But I’m not Mia! She’s Mia!” “We’re not

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looking for Mia. We're here for you, Wilhelmina!" Fiona retorted firmly. Without hesitation, she forcefully threw a pile of photos onto Wilhelmina's face, causing them to scatter across the floor.

The images depicted Wilhelmina intimately engaged with Keegan—seated on

his lap, sharing kisses, and even capturing some explicit moments.

As Wilhelmina laid eyes on the revealing photos, her face turned pale.

"How is

this possible? How could this happen?" she exclaimed.

How did these pictures find their way here?

Turning her gaze toward Wilhelmina, Mia's tone remained composed.

"Here's

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the evidence I mentioned earlier. It's a shame that you didn't believe me this morning." Wilhelmina's complexion turned pallid, a chilling sense of dread washing over her.

How was this even possible? How did Mia manage to obtain these incriminating photos?

Upon seeing the shocking images, Felix spoke with disbelief.

"Wilhelmina, what's going on here?" Could it be that the woman pictured with Keegan wasn't Mia but Wilhelmina?

"Felix, these photos are entirely fabricated! Each one of them has been

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digitally manipulated.

“Mia orchestrated this entire scheme to tarnish my reputation!”

Wilhelmina

insisted, adamantly refusing to acknowledge the truth.

If she were to concede, how could she ever mend the damage inflicted upon

her reputation?

In the next moment, Wilhelmina pointed an accusatory finger at Mia, her voice

cutting through the tension. Mia is merely attempting to divert attention and

shift the blame onto me!

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“The truth is, she’s the one involved with that old man, not me!” With a wry smile, Mia replied, “Why deny the inevitable? If you argue that photos can be manipulated, what about the video I just uploaded online? It can’t be deemed fake, can it?” Felix hurriedly approached, opening the webpage to reveal a video that now included clear audio. unmistakably featuring Wilhelmina’s voice.

There was no room for denial now.

As Wilhelmina saw the video, she trembled, unable to maintain her composure. How did Mia manage to obtain these photos and videos?

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It seemed impossible!

In the blink of an eye, Wilhelmina felt an intense pain on her scalp as her hair was forcefully yanked.

With a menacing tone, Fiona sneered, “Do you have anything left to say?

It’s

clear that you orchestrated all of this, yet you still have the audacity to falsely

accuse others!” Wilhelmina endured a barrage of forceful slaps, and within moments, her face swelled. Her lipstick was smudged, and tears mixed with

mucus streamed down her face.

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Everyone in the studio observed the brutal scene, yet not a single person dared to step forward and intervene.

The bystander effect was primarily fueled by the fact that Fiona hadn't arrived

alone. She had brought along several imposing bodyguards. It was evident that she came well-prepared for the situation.

Under the relentless assault, Wilhelmina turned her gaze toward Mia.

“Why

am I the sole target? Mia is implicated, too! She was with your father just a few days ago.

“You're aware she's been to his villa. Don't you know that once a woman is

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chosen by your father and enters his home, none of them can escape?”

Suddenly, the air fell silent.

Turning to face Mia, Fiona questioned with a hostile tone. “Wilhelmina, is what

you’re saying true?” “It’s true. I collapsed after ingesting something from the

villa that day. Upon regaining consciousness, I discovered myself in your father’s bed. Mia was also at the villa that day.

“Despite abstaining from the food, she couldn’t evade the unfolding situation.

Her return that evening was notably delayed, her lips bearing the evidence of

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intimate moments!

“Astonishingly, she even secured a design order at your father’s villa!”

Wilhelmina recounted.

Upon hearing this twisted narrative, Mia couldn’t help but burst into laughter.

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

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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

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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

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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.

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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,

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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.

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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

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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.

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“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

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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

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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.

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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

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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,

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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,

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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

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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

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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

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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!

Meet My Brothers by Red Thirteen chapter 173

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.

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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.

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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

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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

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litt 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.

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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.

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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

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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.

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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?”

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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.

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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..

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“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.

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“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

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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.

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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.

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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

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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.

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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

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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,

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her eyes carrying a hint of mockery.

“I spent three yea 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

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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

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the past three years, he had assumed Mia's life in the Nonetheless, Timothy hadn't anticipated Shelly daring to engage in such actions. 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.

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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

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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.

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“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

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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.

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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

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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.

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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

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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.

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“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

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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."

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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?”

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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.

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

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."

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“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

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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

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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.

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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.

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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.

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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.

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“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.

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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.

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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.

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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

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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.”

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“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

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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.”

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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

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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

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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.”

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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

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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.

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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

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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

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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

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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.

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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

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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.

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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

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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

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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.

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