

## Chapter 29: In A Relationship

"Mmmm!" Riley moaned as she ate an entire leg of Alaskan king crab. She had earlier dipped the crab into a chili sauce, and the sauce was oozing out of her mouth.

"Oops!" Riley grabbed a paper towel and wiped the corners of her mouth. She said, "Sorry. It's so good."

As Riley ate, Adrian watched her from across the table. He thought Riley looked incredibly adorable, like a child eating her first cake.

"I can tell you are very satisfied. You were having an orgasm just now," Adrian teased before a chuckle left his lips. 2

"Haha!" Riley laughed her heart out. She reasoned, "I just love seafood."

Adrian peeled a shrimp and stuffed it in his mouth. He chewed it down before asking, "How did you survive being married to a man who is allergic to crustaceans?"

"Haha!" Riley laughed again. Her eyes watered in amusement. "I - " 1

Riley drank from her wine and answered, "I eat out alone or with my mom. Sometimes, I go to my mom's house to eat seafood."

"A year ago, I cooked seafood pasta at home and made separate bolognese pasta for Brian. I didn't realize that I had used the same tongs to serve both our pasta, so Brian had a major allergic attack and was rushed to the hospital," Riley said. "And ever since then, my relationship with Brian's mother has worsened."

"I'm sorry to hear that. Has Brian's mother always given you a hard time?" Adrian asked.

"Not really," Riley answered. "Before Brian and I married, she was good to me. After we got married, I noticed she distanced herself, and I knew why. It was because Brian chose to make a jewelry company for me. However, it was Brian's allergy attack that made Beatrice become vocal about -"

Riley quoted with her fingers, "How wrong it was for Brian to get involved with me. So, when Beatrice found out about Claire, she supported the mistress instead of me." 1

"And Darwin said nothing about it?" Adrian asked, referring to Brian's father.

Riley grabbed another crab meat and said, "At first, Dad was on my side, but after Claire got pregnant and seeing that Brian was adamant about leaving me, he supported his son." 1

Adrian clenched his jaws. He sighed heavily and voiced, "Don't worry, Riley. They will all regret it one day. Trust me." 1

"I certainly hope so." Riley smiled before she ate again.

Shortly after they had finished dinner, Adrian and Riley had a few more drinks by the veranda. Riley began checking her phone. She was giggling, making Adrian curious. He asked, "Care to share?"

Riley's face turned tomato red. She showed him a picture of them riding a canoe, which flaunted Adrian's back. She asked, "You don't

mind, do you?"

Shaking his head, Adrian casually answered, "Not at all."

Suddenly, Adrian watched as Riley's expression changed. She sneered as her brows met, clearly angered by what she had seen. A scoff left Riley's lips. She said, "The audacity!"

"What is it?" Adrian asked. 1

Riley showed Adrian her phone and said, "Brian wants to meet me tomorrow. He wants more designs from me? After what he has done to me?"

While reading the email, Adrian could not help but narrow his eyes. He wanted to bring Brian down ASAP, but that would spoil everything. He had a plan that he had to strictly follow in order for him to succeed. He reminded himself, 'First things first, Adrian.'

"Don't give in to the temptation. Remember what I said? I will get you a piece of all your designs. There is no need to bend your pride." He instructed, "Reply to the email and say you will be present during the offer letter, but don't show up."

"Ha?" Riley asked.

"Wouldn't that be fun?" Adrian said with a smirk.

Riley laughed. She quickly typed in her reply to the email and said, "I bet he would get furious."

"Well, getting him infuriated makes me happy," Adrian remarked. 5

\*\*\*

Riley's first date with Adrian did not end until noon the next day. In the morning, they rode a jet ski and snorkeled around the island's reef. She had the most adventurous date in only 24 hours, but while she loved the experience, it exhausted her.

On the ride back to Halliport, Riley's eyes closed unwittingly. Adrian must have noticed her drowsy state, for he offered, "You can lean on me."

Riley felt embarrassed about sleeping on Adrian's chest, but after a while, she leaned into him either way. Thus, she surrendered and said, "Let me close my eyes."

"Sleep," Adrian said before opening his arm to her and letting her rest on his chest.

It did not take long before Riley dozed off completely.

\*\*\*

At Brey Jewelry & Apparel Co., Brian was fuming. He had waited for Riley for over three hours, but his ex-wife was a no-show!

He slammed the offer letter against the conference table and asked the HR manager in charge, "I thought you said she agreed to come?"

"She did, Sir," the HR manager answered. She frantically searched for the email and showed Brian Riley's reply. "She must have an emergency, Sir. Isn't her mom still sick?"

"Call her!" Brian ordered.

"I - I can't. She changed her number. The last time I contacted her by phone was when she collected her things. After that, her old number could no longer be reached," the HR said.

Brian frowned. He called Riley himself using the company trunkline and heard, "The subscriber you have dialed is not in service." 1

"What the -" Brian was stunned. Her personal number was significant to Riley, given the amount of contacts she had. So, why would she disconnect it?

"Her F-a-c-e-b-o-o-k," Brian suggested. He grabbed his phone and searched for Riley's profile. To his surprise, Riley had already unfriended him. However, he could still see little details of her recent post.

His chest constricted when she saw how Riley had recently changed her status from "married" to "in a relationship." 2

"The hell," Brian said as he scanned the Internet for information on Riley's profile. Then, Brian saw a picture of Riley radiating under the sun. Behind her was a man maneuvering the canoe.

Brian could not tell who the man was, but he had a great figure and muscular back.

'Is... Riley seeing another man? And he was more important than getting the rights to her designs back?' He wondered.

Just the idea of it pierced a needle through his heart. That feeling left

Chapter 29: In A Relationship

Brian uncomfortable, so he went to see his mother, Beatrice. He drove to the old Martins' home and told her mother from the living room, "Mom, Riley did not show up for the offer and... I think Riley is seeing another man."

Brian showed Beatrice Riley's social media. Then, his mother stared at her son, looking irritated. "Brian, don't you get it? She is trying to get your attention. She is playing hard to get and making you believe she has moved on, but she wants you to be jealous. Why else would she post that picture on her social media?" 4

"You think so?" Brian asked.

"Yes! It's every woman's tactic! Trust me," Beatrice said. "Don't let her win. Go to Claire and make love to her. It will erase all your doubts." 4

AD is coming

 Lilhyz  Author

“May 27, 2024. Chapter 1-2.

 97

  
Comments

  
Support