Chapter 40

While asleep, Riley kept tumbling and turning. On the left side of the bed, she felt cold and alone. Often, Riley found herself moving to the right, where it was warm. Even though the pillows were a little hard, like an overbaked bread, she unconsciously thought they were soothing.

The scent drew her in the most. It made her feel secure, and she slept like a baby through the night.

"Hmmm," Riley hummed. Her smile reached her ears as she savored that manly scent that was engulfing her.

'This scent is so familiar,' Riley thought. 'It smells like Adrian.'

'Adrian?' Riley fluttered her eyes open. When she saw how she was hugging the man like a teddy bear, her leg around his, she silently screamed, 'Oh, my god!'

Riley flinched as she shut her eyes back. She remembered the Korean series she had seen, in which the female lead awoke in the same situation. She thought, 'How in the world did the same thing happen to me?'

In that drama, the female lead pretended to be asleep as if nothing happened. So, that was what she was planning to do. She stretched her left arm slowly, removing it from Adrian's waist.

She opened her eyes partly to see how she was doing, but before she could pull her hand away, Adrian asked, "How was your sleep?"

Riley said nothing because she planned to act like she was asleep! However, Adrian spoiled the moment by saying, "I saw you open your eyes, so I know you are awake." At that moment, Riley looked up at Adrian with her eyes open. Her face turned crimson red, and she realized their faces were inches apart. Bashfully, she asked, "Did I turn you into a human pillow?"

"Very much so, and you kept pushing me to the edge of the bed. I was almost falling off, but I held my position so you could enjoy your sleep." A faint smirk appeared on his face as he added, "You seemed to have gotten very cozy with me."

Riley bit her lip. Then, she laughed, pulling her arm and leg away from Adrian. She sat up and said, "I'm sorry. I'm sorry. I don't know what happened!"

Adrian also sat up. He crossed his arms against his chest and asked, "Are you always that restless in your sleep?"

"Um." Riley thought deeply before shyly admitting, "I like cuddling, but I have been hugging pillows for too long lately; maybe I miss it?"

She laughed again and said, "I'm sorry. Was my leg heavy?"

"Are you kidding me? You are feather-light," Adrian said. "Anyway -"

Clearing his throat, Adrian suggested, "If you feel like needing a hug to sleep, I'm always here for you, Riley."

Hearing that, Riley felt the butterflies in her stomach. She mused, 'Wait, was that an invitation?'

Adrian's stomach suddenly growled. He said, "Let's have breakfast. It's already nine in the morning. I'm not used to eating so late."

"What? It's nine in the morning?" Riley reacted, shocked at how late she woke up.

Adrian made his way down first. When Riley saw that Grandpa Abner was nowhere to be seen, she rushed to her room to shower. After she had changed into some casual wear, she slowly made her way to the dining area.

From afar, she could already hear Abner asking questions. "What do you mean you didn't get a good sleep? Why? Did you have sex all night?"

Riley choked! She couldn't believe her ears. She had to halt her steps upon hearing Abner's assumptions.

"It wasn't that, Grandpa. I had a lot of things on my mind," Adrian reasoned.

"Are you two a real couple? Or are you pretending to be one so I can give you those shares?" Abner asked.

"Of course we are, Grandpa, but our relationship is still new," Adrian defended. "We don't want to rush things."

"But do you love her?" Abner asked.

"Grandpa, you know I do," Adrian said.

Hearing Adrian's response, Riley became curious. She wondered if Adrian only said those words to please his grandfather. Riley hoped to continue eavesdropping, but Rose saw her as she brought fruit slices.

"Breakfast is ready, Miss Allen. Mister King has been waiting for you," Rose said, encouraging Riley to follow.

"Oh, good morning, Riley," Abner greeted. "Did you sleep well?"

"Um." Riley smiled, answering. "I did, Grandpa. Adrian made me feel comfortable as always."

"That's good. That's good," Abner praised. "Come and take your seat next to Adrian and give him a good morning kiss. Every couple should show affection to keep the fire burning - you know what I mean, Riley?"

'Morning kiss?' Riley rounded her eyes.

Adrian turned to her with a smile. He casually raised his arm and said, " Morning, Hun."

Seeing how Adrian's grandfather expected the "Good Morning Kiss," there was no other way around it. Riley walked towards Adrian and leaned in, kissing his lips.

Stars. It was a brief and soft peck, yet Riley was surprised to see stars. That short contact made her close her eyes, and she unknowingly lingered there, hoping it would last longer.

"Look, Adrian, Riley wants more. Give her more," Abner teased. "You both are probably used to kissing longer when greeting. You shouldn't change anything on my account. Young couples need to be passionate about their love."

Riley, "..."

"Um. Grandpa -"

"Don't be shy. You want me to close my eyes?" Abner asked before immediately covering his eyes with his hands. However, he made sure to put distance between his fingers so he could still see.

Riley felt helpless, and while Adrian was clearly amused, he concealed his

emotions and went along with it. He urged Riley to lower her frame, saying, "Good morning again, Hun."

Her face was feverish at that point. She was embarrassed and nervous at the same time. She lowered her face and kissed Adrian again. This time, their lips slightly parted, and they nibbled at each other's lips once and twice. Only then did Adrian pull away, and so did Riley.

Adrian held her hand, guiding her to her seat, but the second she settled, she couldn't help but stare at Adrian's lips. Somehow, Riley couldn't believe those lips were on hers seconds ago.

Riley noticed Adrian had placed a slice of pineapple on her plate. She ate it absentmindedly. Everything around her seemed to have faded, and her mind went back to the kiss. She was so in a daze that Riley didn't hear Adrian the first time.

"Riley? Everything okay?" Finally, Riley recognized her name as Adrian called.

"Ha?" She asked.

"How was it?" He asked.

'What?' Riley panicked. Her entire body was burning. How was she supposed to respond to that question?

Stuttering, she softly answered, "Um. The kiss was great."

A chuckle left Adrian's lips. His eyes glistened as he clarified, "I meant the pineapple. How was it?"

Riley knew she had probably turned bloody red, but she still answered, " Oh. Haha. Pineapple is great. It's sweet."

