



Chapter 41

"I am so honored to meet you, Mister King, and it is such a sincere gesture of Adrian to introduce us," Renee expressed.

Riley and Adrian visited Renee at the hospital in the afternoon, and Abner came along.

"It is my pleasure to meet the mother of the woman who had captured my grandson's heart." Abner laughed, saying, "You should know that Adrian is very picky. Riley must be a special girl."

Abner and Renee talked at the hospital room's dining table, whereas Riley sat with Adrian across from them.

"Oh, Riley is always special," Renee smiled as she described, glancing at Riley and Adrian. "But Adrian, he is very kind."

"He is. My grandson is stubborn, but he is kind," Abner acknowledged. "You know, I was worried at some point that maybe Adrian would stay single all his life. I have been pushing him to have a family for some time now. So, I am glad that he met Riley."

Abner pointed to Adrian and said, "As you can see, my grandson is smitten!"

"It won't be long when these two tie the knot. Maybe in less than a year, I'll have a grandchild!" Abner declared.

Riley choked on her spew, but Adrian simply chuckled.

When Adrian said Abner wanted him to settle down, she didn't think Grandpa was this keen on achieving it. It was as though Abner would stop at nothing to make it happen! Hence, his interception.

"So, as Adrian's grandfather, I am here to let you know that he has my full support in marrying Riley," Abner added. "And don't worry, Adrian won't ever hurt Riley. I raised him to be a good man!"

"That is some hard selling there, Grandpa," Adrian was clearly scolding, but the situation was so amusing that everyone laughed.

Renee laughed it out for seconds but soon said, "I didn't think you would be so full of humor, Mister King. But about marriage and children, it might be too soon."

"Dear, dear," Abner said. "Let me disagree with you on that one. The secret to a happy marriage is finding the right person."

Again, Abner pointed to Riley and Adrian. He suggested, "I believe Riley and Adrian are a good fit. Besides, Riley is already twenty-seven. It is the best age to bear a child rather than much later."

"Well, you have a point there," Renee reluctantly agreed. "But we can leave it up to them to decide."

"Of course, of course!" Abner said. He leaned back and waved his hands, saying, "I'm not pressuring them. I'm just encouraging them."

Suddenly, Abner rested his hand on his chest. His eyes became distant, and his face drooped. He said, "It's just that I'm getting old, and I might die soon; seeing a great-grandchild this year would be wonderful. I hope that Riley and Adrian will grant me my wish."

Riley, "..."

"Don't worry, Grandpa. Your doctor said you are very healthy. So, I'm sure you can wait a little while longer," Adrian indicated, and when Abner scoffed violently, laughter filled the air again.

Meanwhile, inside the study of Anthony King's mansion, the family of three was discussing the plan to let Adrian take over King's Enterprises.

"Father, I'm so sorry about yesterday, but I approached that woman to test her. What if she is only after Adrian's money?" Fredrick reasoned.

"At the end of the day, the surveillance caught you, and in every angle, you were in the wrong. You shouldn't have done it," Anthony reprimanded. "If that video goes out, your reputation will be ruined."

The tension in the room rendered everyone silent. Only moments later, Anthony spoke again, "This might be a good thing. Sometimes, we can get fresh ideas from other people, like Adrian. He has done great work with the King's Medical Center and is now earning more than the construction business."

Fredrick pretended to agree, but deep inside, he was fuming. He hid his clenched fist underneath the table as they debated.

"Is it, Anthony? Have you forgotten what Adrian did three years ago? He leaked company information? What if he does it again?" Tonet implied.

Anthony took a deep breath. He answered, "The email was sent using the office IP address, but Adrian was on vacation then. The surveillance did not capture him entering the office when the email was sent--"

"He could have tampered with the surveillance," Tonet suggested.

Anthony ran his fingers through his hair. With a hint of irritation, he answered, "We don't know, but either way, the board chose not to elect him as the CEO. So, let's move on from that incident."



"But!" Tonet objected. "What if he does better? What if he outshines Fredrick?"

Anthony's brows furrowed. He strengthened his voice as he replied, "Then, he deserves a promotion, don't you think?"

"I'm sorry to say this, Fredrick, but The King's Enterprises hasn't been increasing its profits since last year. And with the added fashion line, we are spending more money—" Anthony sighed with regret, then resumed, "I know you did your best, Fredrick, but maybe Adrian can turn things around. If he does, we must be ready for what will happen. If he gains the shareholder's favor, you should accept it."

"I will propose to the board that Adrian take over next week. I will tell them that you are not feeling well. That should be enough time for you to get ready, right, Fredrick?" Anthony asked.

"I'll prepare for it, Dad," Fredrick said. "To be sure, I will require all of Adrian's decisions to be preapproved by me."

"I think that should be fine," Anthony said before touching Fredrick's shoulder. "Thank you for understanding, Fredrick."

After discussing the plan, Anthony remained in the study while Fredrick and Tonet stepped onto the patio. They then resumed their discussion.

"This is all your fault, Fredrick!" Tonet angrily said. "You will ruin everything!"

"Relax, Mother," Fredrick smirked. "This is all part of my plan. I will use Adrian and take credit for all his work."

"And how do you suppose you can do that?" Tonet asked.

"Simple," Fredrick confidently said. "I'm going to bribe Clint." 2

Fredrick laughed. He claimed, "Money can buy everything, including loyalty."

Hours later, Riley faced the same predicament as the other night.

They were back home, and Grandpa Abner was guarding the second-floor sitting area. Riley could only go with Adrian into his room.

"I think you will be sleeping here tonight," Adrian said.

"You think?" Riley said before putting her hands on her waist.

A chuckle left Adrian's lips. He revealed, "Linda put some of your clothes in my closet. At least you don't have to wear my shirt tonight."

"Oh, that's great." Riley pursed her lips. It was nice of Linda, but why was she a bit disappointed?

They alternately showered. After Adrian bathed, Riley helped him into his wheelchair. She prepared his pajamas and shirt before heading to the shower herself.

When Riley was done, she stepped out of the bathroom in her satin pajamas. She reluctantly approached the bed.

Adrian was already settled in the middle, and there were no pillows in between. He raised his arm to her and said, "There is no point dividing the bed. I'm offering free cuddle."



Riley laughed. Her face flushed as she climbed up the bed next to Adrian.

While Adrian wrapped his arm around her, Riley rested on the man's solid chest.

"Goodnight, Hun," Riley said.

She felt Adrian's chest rise, suggesting he was chuckling. He answered, "Goodnight, Hun."

Riley thought they were both going to sleep at that point, but suddenly, Adrian cleared his throat and asked, "Any goodnight kiss?"

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