## Chapter 42

'A goodnight kiss?'

Riley's mouth hung open as she looked at Adrian wide-eyed. The fluttering in her stomach intensified her emotions.

As she locked eyes with Adrian, her heart pounding in her chest, she stammered, "A... goodnight kiss?"

There was a hint of disappointment in Adrian's eyes when she asked, and it made Riley panic.

Have she thought about it? Of course! After that morning's first kiss, the scene frequently visited her mind, and she wondered how it would feel if that kiss lasted longer or perhaps was a real deal, not a mere peck or nibble.

Adrian averted his gaze, saying, "It's okay, Ri -"

Quickly, Riley held Adrian's face, her eyes filled with yearning. After that, Adrian smiled faintly. He raised his upper body so that Riley was lying on his left forearm, and he was leaning towards her.

Riley felt every second of that moment. As their faces inched closer, she noticed his warm breath tickling her skin. His eyes became hooded as if he was merely focusing on her lips. While Adrian's muscular body lowered closer to hers, her hand automatically rested on his solid chest.

The second their lips touched, Riley closed her eyes.

Stars.

There it was again. Stars.

It started with soft pecks, cautious nibbles, and delicate open-mouth kisses.

Riley was amazed at how gentle Adrian was. It was as if he wanted Riley to feel at ease, or he was savoring each kiss. It was great because Riley did the same. She treasured every second of it: how his soft lips were on hers, how their tongues finally touched, and how their flavors exchanged.

When their tongues danced, Riley felt happy goosebumps all over.

Unwittingly, she pulled herself closer to Adrian's frame, her arm slowly climbing to the back of his neck. At the same time, Adrian's arms were now wrapped around her waist, pinning her against his body.

To Riley, everything about Adrian was terrific: his taste, his intoxicating manly scent, and his well-sculpted body.

There was silence everywhere, and Riley could only hear the sound of their kisses. In the seconds that passed, the kisses intensified. As Adrian began to deepen their kiss, Riley moaned into his mouth.

When Adrian pulled away to chuckle, Riley thought it was the end of their hot makeout session, but to her surprise, he leaned closer again and captured her lips. This time, she heard him groan, his body pressing harder against her slender frame.

They continued to kiss, not minding the time their lips had been glued to each other. Riley couldn't understand the high she was feeling. She was definitely on cloud nine, and he was the addictive pill that caused it.

As their heads turned from side to side, responding to the heated kisses, Riley felt dampness on her underwear. She clamped her legs together to hide the thrilling sensation that was building up inside of her.

Riley's body was on fire! She was becoming restless, and Adrian was the same. Their legs were entangled as Adrian ultimately climbed on top of her.

They kissed more passionately this time, no longer holding back the erotic sighs that left their lips. However, as they went at it, Riley felt the thick bulge in Adrian's pajamas, and she gasped.

Adrian must have noticed it too that he pulled away and lay back on his side of the bed. He slowly turned to her, saying, "I'm sorry. I couldn't help myself. That was amazing."

Riley's face was red from the overwhelming sensation she was experiencing. Now, she was thoroughly embarrassed at how she had given herself away. Did she have any regrets? Not really. She wanted it so badly and was glad she took that step in their complicated relationship.

"That was amazing for me too," Riley coyly remarked.

Adrian pushed back a strand of her hair. He smiled and pecked her lips one last time, saying, "Goodnight, Riley."

"Goodnight, Adrian," Riley said. She reached for his face and kissed his cheek before she settled on his chest.

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Adrian didn't fall asleep just yet. He only listened to Riley's slow breathing in the last half an hour. That night, they kissed, and it wasn't just any kind. It was a kiss of passion. Finally, Adrian felt reassured that he was slowly winning Riley's heart.

'Should I tell her now?' Adrian had a few apprehensions. After all, Riley belonged to someone else for years while he merely watched her on the

sidelines. Adrian didn't want to shock Riley with all the truth. However, subtly and through actions, he had showed her his side of the truth. Soon, he would tell her everything.

The thought of Brian Martin made Adrian gasped. As he stroked Riley's hair, he mused, 'She is mine now, Brian. You have lost your chance. I can't wait to see the look in your eyes when you discover that Riley is now with me, but not yet. Not yet. She needs to be mine completely before you find out.'

Adrian took his time, adoring Riley. After a while, his entire body relaxed. He pecked on Riley's head before finally dozing off to sleep.

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While Adrian and Riley were comfortably sharing a bed, Brian had been in the office, shifting through newly approved jewelry designs.

Somehow, he didn't find them satisfying, but he convinced himself, "
These are just as good as Riley's designs."

Brian checked his phone and realized he had ten missed calls and twenty messages from Claire.

[Where are you, Babe? I'm bored at home.]

[Can I invite friends and old neighbors over? Mother would like to show them our house?]

[Where are you? Are you still working on a Sunday?]

[We have people over. Mom wants to drink your wine. Is that okay?]

Brian sighed. Claire wouldn't understand the pressure he was under. She was only at home, caring for her pregnancy, while Brian had to keep the

business running and care for Claire's family needs.

He drove home at midnight. When he arrived, he was shocked that the police were at his villa's driveway!

After he pulled over, a police officer approached him and said, "Mister Martin, your neighbors complained about loud noises at your property. You know that parties beyond nine in the evening are prohibited in your community, right?"

"Party?" Brian exited his vehicle and studied his villa. He realized a few young adults were wasted, puking by the lawn, while a few older people loudly said goodbyes by the porch. Mara and Claire were there, talking to another police officer.

Brian briskly walked towards Claire and Mara, and he angrily asked, " What the fuck is going on? Did you hold a party without my permission?"

"Babe," Claire said with a frown. "We told you we were inviting old neighbors and friends over. It wasn't a party. We had a group of twenty people come over!"

"Mister Martin, they were playing loud sounds, and some were screaming," the police reported.

Brian walked into the house, inspecting every corner. There was clutter everywhere. Takeout food and a few dishes served on paper plates were scattered.

He was shocked to find his collection of expensive wines already empty. The worst part was that his study was wide open and turned into a mess!

When Brian returned to the living room, he was livid. He said, "What did you do, Claire? The house is a mess?!"

