



Chapter 44

"I thought you were full?" Adrian asked while Clint was driving them out of the opera house.

Riley's stomach was growling, a low rumble that seemed to echo in the quiet car. She chuckled at the sound, saying, "I was. I had a sandwich with Mom in the afternoon, so I didn't eat much at our early dinner, but I suppose I'm hungry again."

"You only ate a salad," Adrian pointed out. He directed Clint to drop by the nearest hotel where they could have a late-night meal for Riley and him to eat.

The closest was the Marriot Hotel, which was strangely swarming with people at ten in the evening.

"Looks like there is an event, Sir," Clint said. "Shall we go to another hotel?"

Adrian frowned. He answered, "It's out of the way. The restaurant should be empty. Call the manager and arrange for someone to meet us."

"Yes, Mister King," Clint answered.

As Adrian anticipated, no one was in the restaurant because it was closed. However, being who he was, the hotel manager only opened the restaurant for Adrian. The hotel kitchen was open for in-room dining, so chefs were still available to cook.

Adrian and Riley both ordered chicken soup. It was a light meal with shredded chicken and vegetables, enough to warm their stomachs that evening before they headed home for another one of Riley's surprises.



Yes, Adrian had mentioned that the surprise was at his villa and not anywhere else, so she was curious about what it was.

"Hmmm." Riley smiled after taking another sip of the soup. "Very good."

Just as she was enjoying her stew, she noticed a few ladies had passed by the restaurant and were clearly staring at them, more specifically, at Adrian. Riley turned to the glass walls and asked, "Do you know them?"

Adrian turned to the group of women outside and instantly squinted. He answered, "They are friends of Leni Eros."

"Oh." Riley's lips rounded. She glanced at the ladies who were outside the restaurant. After Adrian stared at them, they left.

"They just probably recognized me," Adrian said. "I had attended a few gatherings with the Eros family since our engagement."

Clint, who had observed the same ladies prying outside, took it upon himself to investigate. Moments later, he came back to their table and reported, "There is a product launching at the hotel, and Leni Eros happens to be the ambassador."

"I see," Adrian said. "Let's not bother ourselves with it then. Finish your meal, Clint, and when we are done, let's head for the villa."

"Yes, Mister King," Clint said before finding his table and eating his sandwich from a distance.

After finishing their meals, Riley and Adrian made their way back to the lift, escorted by Clint and the hotel staff. However, on their way, they encountered the dazzling model, Leni Eros of Dowel City. 1

Leni Eros had shoulder-length strawberry-blond hair. She had a small



face, a long nose, and lovely brown eyes. She was wearing a black dress embroidered with gems. Amongst the crowd, she was the head turner.

A few reporters were taking pictures of her, and she posed for a bit. Then, one of her friends whispered into her ear, making her turn toward Adrian and Riley.

Leni urged the reporters to give her space, and they did. She approached Adrian and said, "Adrian, it's nice to see you again." She smiled at Riley and asked, "And who is this lady?"

Riley was nervous. She had always been curious about Leni and her relationship with Adrian.

Adrian held Riley's hand and introduced, "This is Riley, my girlfriend."

"Oh, how nice." Leni smiled. "I'm glad that you moved on."

"I'm sorry about the engagement, Adrian, but we both know it was best to take our separate ways," Leni said. "To begin with, it was your fault."

Adrian nodded. He said, "Of course. I understand, and I'm glad our engagement was canceled."

While Leni maintained her smile, her lips twitched. Riley was unsure if she was truly satisfied with Adrian's answer. She studied Riley from head to toe and asked, "Because of her?"

"Yes," Adrian responded. "I'm happy to be with Riley."

"Then, I'm happy for you," Leni said. "However, I can't do anything about what Father decides about business. I hope you understand."

"Yes," Adrian answered. "I respect your father's decisions."



'Her father's decision? What could that be?' Riley wondered. She made a mental note to ask Adrian later.

"Well, we better go, Adrian. The press is waiting," Leni said. She smiled at Riley, saying, "It's nice to meet you, Riley."

Leni left with her groupies following her, whereas Adrian and Riley resumed their path to the lifts. While waiting, Riley suddenly felt the need to use the restroom. She excused herself and made her way to the nearest ladies' room.

Riley relieved her bladder. She was about to exit her cubicle when a group of women entered. They happened to be Leni and her group of friends. 1

"Leni, aren't you jealous that Adrian is seeing another girl?" One woman asked.

A scoff left Leni's lips. She said, "Girls? Are you kidding me? I was the one who canceled the engagement, remember?"

"I have always wanted to cancel our marriage, but I couldn't find a good excuse. Thank god Adrian didn't show up for our engagement party. Finally, Dad agreed to cancel the marriage agreement," Leni revealed. "I mean, seriously, who wants to marry a disabled man? Even if the Kings were the richest in Halliport? What do they think of me? I don't want to be a woman who will take care of her husband. That's not me at all!"

"Adrian is handsome, but I'm not going to clean his shit," Leni said before her group of friends laughed hysterically.

"Let that - what's her name again?" Leni asked. "Adrian's girlfriend?"

"I think it was Riley," a friend of Leni said.

"Yeah, let Riley take care of Adrian. She looks like someone who would settle for less, but I won't." Leni laughed. "I deserve someone better."

Inside her cubicle, Riley was outraged. She mused, 'So that was how Leni thought of Adrian that whole time? How horrible of her!'

Riley courageously stormed out of the cubicle with her chin up.

Instantly, Dead air fell upon them.

Riley applied her fiery red lipstick and snapped at Leni, "Disabled? Is that the only way you look at Adrian? The accident wasn't his fault, to begin with!"

Through her gritted teeth, Riley added, "Adrian is so much better than any man out there, and I'm glad I got to have him for myself!"

Riley turned on her heel and walked towards the door. She was about to leave, but Leni called, "Wait!"

"I bet Adrian didn't tell you," Leni said. "It's not just his disability, but Adrian can't get it up? That's right. He has had erectile dysfunction ever since his accident. Who would ever be satisfied with a man like that? During our engagement, he never touched me."

A scoff left Leni's lips. She sarcastically asked, "So, do you still think he is great?"

Heartbeats later, Riley was in the car, staring at Adrian's groin. She thought, 'What the hell was Leni talking about? Erectile dysfunction?'

Riley and Adrian had made out a lot of times now that week, and she was



confident the man got a boner each time!

"Riley?" Adrian called her attention. He leaned closer and asked, "You have been staring at my dick for the last half an hour. What's going on?"

Riley's face turned tomato red. She answered, "I - I -"



Lilhyz



Author

June 4, 2024. Thank you for reading. I hope you love each chapter. Don't forget to send some love for this novel. Leave your review, comments, send gems or gifts. Kisses!



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