



## Chapter 47

"Will you have me?"

It amazed Riley that after everything, Adrian was still considerate of her feelings and decisions. He wasn't the type to decide on her behalf and assumed things based on their current status because, obviously, they were already behaving like a real couple.

'Adrian is really a good person,' she mused.

Riley gently placed her hands on his cheeks. Her eyes were glued to his captivating gray orbs. With a hint of a smile, she whispered, "I also want us. I want to explore the possibilities of what we could have been if not for your accident. Sadly, we can't go back in time, but it's not too late."

"It's not too late," Adrian agreed. He smiled and drew her closer, his forehead resting on hers. "We are here, and we are still young."

"So, yes. I'd be happy to have you. No more pretending," Riley nodded in reply. Yet again, tears streamed down her face. This time, however, they were tears of joy, knowing she would face a better tomorrow with a wonderful man. She embraced Adrian next, and he held her tightly like there was no tomorrow.

For seconds, they remained in the same embrace, feeling the warmth of their bodies and the steady rhythm of their heartbeats. Eventually, Adrian kissed Riley's head, forehead, and cheeks. He cupped her face and expressed, "Thank you, Riley, for trusting me with your heart. I promise to take care of it."

"And I promise the same," Riley claimed. "Like you have always asked me, I will be loyal to you."



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They were over the emotional recollection of their past, and had decided on their relationship status. Adrian had brought Riley to his room. He suggested, "Take a shower first. I have a few things to discuss with Clint."

Riley pouted, and Adrian found it incredibly cute. She replied, "Are you still working at this hour?"

"No, it will only take me a few minutes, I promise," Adrian swore.

"Okay," Riley said. "I'll wait for you."

Adrian left the room, feeling relieved and happy. Finally, that part of the truth was out, and he and Riley could fully move on.

As always, Abner was still in the sitting area of the second floor. Adrian chuckled and said, "Gramps. Get some sleep. I'm just going to talk to Clint for a bit."

"Everything okay between you and Riley?" Abner asked. "She seemed to have cried."

"Yes, we had a very heart-to-heart talk," Adrian said. "I told her about the past."

"About how you loved her since college?" Abner inquired.

"Ah, yes," Adrian admitted. Abner knew about Riley. In fact, during the first year of his treatment, Abner used Riley's name to motivate Adrian. Though Riley wasn't in Sweden then, the thought of seeing her again drove Adrian to push his limits.

Abner smiled at Adrian's answer. He said, "Then, it can only get better

from here."

"I hope so, Grandpa. You can rest easy now. Go to sleep," Adrian proposed.

"It's okay. I had slept all afternoon. I will wait until you get back and enter the room," Abner said.

Adrian chuckled. He wondered if his grandfather still doubted his relationship with Riley. Nevertheless, he had nothing to hide; they were now... officially a couple.

He returned to his study, where Clint was waiting for him. The second Adrian shut the door, he ordered, "It's time, Clint."

"Where do we start, Sir?" Clint asked.

"With Brian Martin," Adrian instructed.

Clint smirked. He revealed, "Mister Martin had been calling. He is offering new designs to Mister Ace."

"Tell him that I only want designs by Riley Allen and will not be ordering any more pieces from Brey Jewelry and Apparel," Adrian said.

"Call Mister Ventura, Misses Gray, Miss Jhonson, the Davidsons, the Bianchis, and the Clarks. Tell them that Riley Allen has started a new jewelry company with me, and introduce them... to Adley & Co.," Adrian instructed, identifying the names he had previously referred to Brey Jewelry.