

Dedicated to DorcasBruwaa

~Brie~

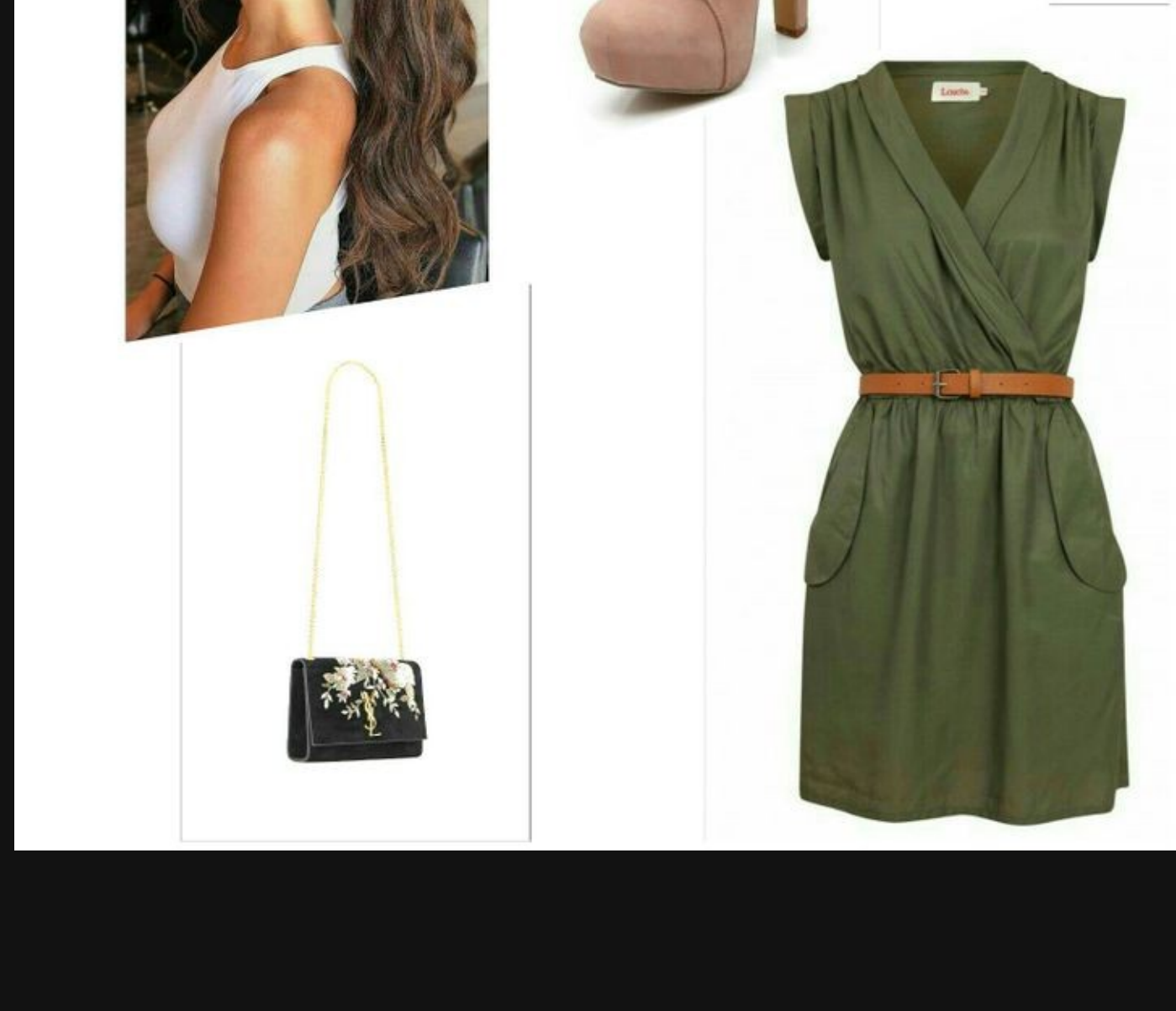
I woke up and stretched my body to its full length. I glanced at my arm and the pain was going down. I slipped off the sling and looked beside me where Roman was still sleeping. I smiled and pecked him. I loved him so much. He was my everything.

I got out of bed and peeped at my phone. I decided to take a bubble bath. I took my time and relaxed in the bath, letting the warm bubble bath work its magic.

Hell, it's been long since I had one.

I eventually ended up falling asleep in the tub. I'm awoken by the cold wind bursting through the window. I shivered and got out of the tub. I towel myself and my hair dry then wrapped a bathrobe around me. I stepped out and heard the front door close. I took a stunned step back, then furrowed my eyebrows. But I just shrugged it off as I heard nothing again.

I turned back and dived straight into my closet; trying on new looks. I finally picked an outfit.



Fixing my hair in a ponytail, I finally walked out. The sudden silence in my room caught my attention. I turned to the bed. It was in a mess and Roman wasn't there. I checked his room. I proceeded to his bathroom to check. I tapped softly on the door.

"Roman honey, you in there?" I called.

There was no answer for two minutes. I turned the doorknob and stepped inside. There was no one there. I came out and wondered where he could be.

I quickly picked up my phone and ran out the door and down the stairs.

"Mom? Mother! Mom!" I shouted, coming down the stairs.

"Oh, there she is" Aunt Thea greeted. "Sweetheart, your friends are here to see you."

I looked in the direction she was facing as I stepped down. I smiled.

"Cynthia! Avery! Hey!" I greeted. "This is a nice surprise."

They smiled. Avery handed me a bouquet.

"We came to visit you" she smiled.

"Aww, thanks. I love these" I said sniffing the flowers.

"So how are you doing?" Cynthia asked.

"I'm fine," I said, shrugging a little.

"Does it hurt?" Avery asked poking the cast.

I smiled at her.

"I can't feel a thing."

Her expression changed.

"Is that a good thing?" Cynthia asked.

"Oh, you must be Cynthia!" Mom chirped approaching us. "And you must be the much nicer 8th-floor receptionist who replaced that horrible Lacy."

"Mom really?"

"Yes, Mrs. Nolan" Avery laughed.

"Call me Becca, sweetheart."

I chuckled.

"Would you like to join us for breakfast?" Mom asked them.

"Lemme get those for you Ms. Breanna" one of the help mom got offered.

"Thanks, Fawn," I said and handed over the bouquet.

"These are lovely flowers. Where do you want them?" she asked, cradling them in her arms.

"Well, my room. But Roman's not too well and he's sleeping in my room."

"But the pollen."

"I know."

Fawn smiled.

"Don't worry about it, Ms. Breanna. I've got it" she said and walked away.

"You're an angel Fawn. Thank you."

"Mommy!" I heard my son call from the direction of the stairs.

I felt relieved as I looked up and he was coming down with Glenn, the other help.

"Hi sweetheart," I said opening my arm to him.

I pecked him on the forehead.

"You smell nice" I giggled.

"Auntie Glenn helped me take a nice bath."

"And what did you say to her?"

"Thank you" he responded. "I remembered my manners."

I smiled and nodded.

"That's one more reason why I love you this much."

"And I love you," he said hugging my waist.

I gave him tiny kisses and he laughed.

"Go find Gramps," I said and he ran off.

I watched him go.

"He looks so much better this morning," I said.

"I'm glad," Glenn told me.

I turned to her and took her hand in mine.

"Thank you, Glenn. I really appreciate it."

"I'll always do whatever I can to help you and Roman," she said patting the back of my hand.

I laughed.

"Excuse me, Ms. Breanna."

"Go ahead," I said.

I turned and nearly bumped into Aunt Thea.

"Careful" she smiled at me.

"Sorry," I said, walking over to the dining room where they were all eating.

I stole Greg's sausage, took a bite, and moved on to wrap my arm around Cora. She squealed on seeing me.

"My sausage is not happy with you Breanna!" Greg yelled, waving the half-bitten piece of meat at me.

Cora laughed. She was the youngest of all the cousins and she simply adored me. I was clearly her favorite cousin. I saw Mom enter the kitchen.

"Hey mom" I whispered, going over to her. "I'm going to get a few groceries. Want anything?"

"No, we're all good here."

I nodded at her.

"Okay, I've gotta go. See you later."

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I pulled up in front of the mall and unbuckled my seat belt. I heard a tap on the window and when I turned, it was a policewoman.

I smiled and lowered the glass.

"Hello officer" I greeted.

Her expression was unreadable.

Period cramps maybe?

"License miss."

I sighed.

"Now?"

She raised a brow.

"Did I stutter?"

I shook my head and showed her my license.

"Are you sure you should be driving with that around your arm?" she asked eyeing my cast.

I gave her a half-shrug.

"Oh, this? It's not serious."

She looked at me.

"Whatever you say... Breanna Nolan."

She handed my license back and tipped her hat.

"Thanks," I said.

"And sweet ride by the way" She grinned all of a sudden patting the hood of my car. "You have a great day and good luck with your arm."

I nodded and waited for her to move on. She didn't so I got down and locked the car.

Two beeps.

I slung my purse over my shoulder and looked around.

"What now?" I murmured to myself, massaging the back of my neck as I leaned back against my car.

I hadn't even made a grocery list.

I just wanted an excuse to get out of the house. Just when I pulled out my phone, I heard someone call out my name.

I slowly pivoted.

"Mr. Corleone."

He gave me a very serious look.

I let out a little chuckle and scratched the side of my ear.

"Aiden..." I corrected.

"Much better."

I fidgeted with my car keys.

"What are you doing here?" he asked, slipping his hands into his pockets as he approached me.

Wait, this was a mall. You didn't need a reason to come to the mall, did you?

"I'm sorry, that was a really silly question to ask. I mean it's the mall."

I nodded locking eyes with him. We stood there awkwardly.

Blink!

I blinked and the sting I was beginning to feel disappeared.

"So, are you going in?" I asked pointing in the direction of the mall's many entrances.

"Ermm yeah" he answered. "I have to get a few stuff for my sister. She's visiting."

"Ahh cool," I said swinging my leg around a bit. "I didn't think you did your own shopping."

"I don't have the time, but when I can, I do and I enjoy it."

I nodded. The awkward silence returned.

"Look Breanna, I'm sorry for my actions last week. It was uncalled for. I shouldn't have reacted in that manner. I do apologize."

Hmm.

I shook my head.

"No, no it's fine. Don't worry about it."

"How about I make it up to you?"

I chuckled, unamused.

"You don't have to do that."

"You get to help me with my shopping."

My eyes flicked back and forth.

"No seriously, you don't have to" I pressed.

He smiled and held out his hand to me. I hesitated.

Was he bipolar or something?

"C'mon."

I sighed helplessly and took his hand.

"Lead the way."

Thank you so much for reading!

Please don't forget to vote!