

Read Loving You In Secret by Debbie Meza

Chapter 916

Upon seeing Aria approaching, Cece's expression immediately turned cold and she looked at Aria with a guarded expression without a hint of friendliness in her eyes toward Aria.

"Ms. Shaw, what a coincidence," Aria said openly.

"Are you also here for a meal?"

Cece glanced at Aria and pretended to be surprised as she said to Vicky, "Vicky, didn't you say that Mister Hart had something urgent to attend to and wouldn't be coming back for dinner? So he's not busy with work and was occupied with having dinner with another woman, huh?"

Cece noticed Vicky's recent disappointment.

Some time ago, Tyler had been extremely attentive to Vicky, picking her up for work, calling and texting whenever he had free time, and even having fresh flowers delivered to her every day.

Vicky's mood at the time clearly indicated that they were in the honeymoon phase. It was not long before Tyler became busy. It would be one thing if he was truly busy with work, yet he was caught having dinner with another woman.

Moreover, Cece always believed that no matter how busy Tyler was, as long as he had Vicky in his heart, he would always find time to at least send Vicky messages. ninjanovel.com She did not expect the two to be in the honeymoon phase forever, but Tyler simply seemed to have gotten bored far too soon.

Cece would not describe herself to be a particularly sensitive person, but even she felt confused by Tyler's sudden change of attitude.

Tyler, who was behind Aria, clearly heard Cece's sarcastic remark.

Ignoring Cece, he looked at Vicky and said in a low voice, "Miss Everly and I are here to discuss business."

Cece could not help but interject, "Does discussing business require linking arms?"

Aria smiled and said, "I grew up in Molivia and received a different education. For me, linking arms with a good friend is perfectly normal

behavior. However, since we're in Zendonía, I will adapt to local customs. If my actions upset Ms. Shaw, I'll be more careful next time. Though...

Aria looked at Cece, a hint of confusion in her eyes.

"What is your relationship with Mister Hart, Miss? Ms. Shaw hasn't even said anything yet, but you seem to be the one getting angry... Recently, I've learned from my friends in Zendonía that a woman's worst enemy is, most often than not, her best friend." Aria turned her attention to Vicky.

"You ought to be more careful, Ms. Shaw."

"Why you..."

Cece's face flushed in anger.

Though Tyler was indeed extremely handsome and wealthy, he was not Cece's type. She preferred gentle and bright men, fearing distant, cold men like Tyler. She would have never dared to speak to Tyler in such a tone if she did not feel sorry for how depressed Vicky was.

Vicky placed her hand on top of Cece's, signaling her to remain quiet while looking at Tyler.

"Why didn't you tell me about this just now on the phone?"

"You didn't ask," Tyler said.

"..."

Vicky was instantly at a loss for words.

Indeed, she did not ask for many details, and she rarely did when she knew that he was busy with work.

Chapter 917

Vicky knew that even as a married couple, they needed their space, but that did not mean he should not speak up about meeting another woman just because she did not ask.

Aria spoke at the right moment, "Ms. Shaw, Mister Hart and I have a business collaboration which you should be aware of. I'm sure you've asked about our relationship, and he has explained it to you. If there was anything between us, you wouldn't be married to him now."

Pausing for a moment, Aria tactfully continued, "Ms. Shaw, throwing tantrums occasionally adds to a woman's charm, but you shouldn't be too petty. You're now Mister Hart's wife, and your every action and word represents his image. As for me... Well, I'll let it slide. After all, I've known Tyler for many years and can be considered friends. However, I'd advise caution in front of others."

Vicky looked at Aria and asked, “Miss Everly, are you telling me that I’m being petty?”

Aria smiled.

“As I mentioned earlier, if you don’t like me linking arms with Mister Hart, I won’t do it again. But even without me, there will be other women out there, right? This behavior doesn’t signify intimacy but rather politeness. I understand that you grew up in a different environment, so it’s difficult for you to grasp what I’m saying... However, you will have to adapt to these things sooner or later. You still have a long life ahead of you, and if you get jealous over such trivial matters, ninjanovel.com how will you move forward?”

Vicky’s expression gradually hardened, as she thought to herself, ‘What a sharp tongue!’

On the surface, Aria was talking about their different upbringings, but in reality, she was implying that Vicky’s background made her unworthy of Tyler. Tyler’s lack of transparency should have been his problem, but Aria somehow managed to make it sound like it was Vicky’s fault.

Vicky raised her gaze.

“When did I say I was jealous?”

“Aren’t you jealous, Ms. Shaw?”

Aria showed a surprised expression and smiled, glancing at Tyler.

“Sorry, Tyler, I misunderstood. I thought... Ms. Shaw would be jealous. That’s why I went to the lengths of explaining everything. ninjanovel.com I only meant to let Ms. Shaw know that we only have a professional relationship. I didn’t expect...” She sighed lightly.

“I was overthinking.”

Cece stood there, seemingly dumbfounded as she watched Aria.

Among all the women she had seen around Tyler Hart, this woman was undoubtedly the most formidable.

With just a casual remark, she could stir up the relationships of others. If Vicky admitted that she was jealous, she would be considered self-centered, but if she claimed that she was not, it could be interpreted as her lack of care toward Tyler.

Nothing she could say would be right.

Though Tyler might not feel anything toward Aria, Vicky could not help but wonder if it would be appropriate for him to spend time with such a scheming woman.

“Your throat must feel dry from all that talking, Miss Everly.” Vicky poured a glass of water.

“Would you like some water?”

“No, thanks.” Aria smiled.

“I heard that wine selection here is great, so I intend on getting a bottle.”

“If that’s the case, I won’t keep you two from enjoying your dinner.” Aria glanced around.

“Ms. Shaw, we booked a room. Would you like to join us? This table is too close to the entrance, and the wind can get in quite easily. If you catch a cold, Tyler will worry about you.”

“It’s fine,” Vicky said coldly.

“This table has a great view. My food is getting cold. Please carry on ahead to your room.”

Tyler scowled and wanted to say something, but Aria reminded him,

“Tyler, we have a business meeting later. If we don’t eat now, we’ll be late.”

He glanced at the time and shot Vicky a thoughtful look.

“We’ll talk when I get home tonight.”

“Sure. Go ahead.” Vicky remained expressionless.

The two went into the VIP room, and as they walked away, Cece muttered in frustration, “Who does that woman think she is?!”

Chapter 918

Vicky remained silent, not uttering a word.

Cece noticed the gloomy look on her face and quieted down.

After finishing dinner, they both went home separately.

Later at night, Vicky had just stepped out of the bedroom when the door was pushed open, and a handsome and tall man entered the room.

Vicky was drying her hair and paused briefly before she continued.

Footsteps approached, and not long after, arms wrapped around Vicky from behind.

“Are you angry?” a deep and clear voice resounded.

“No, I’m not.” Vicky pushed him away.

“Just let go for now. I’m drying my hair. You’re in the way.”

“I’ll help you”

Tyler smoothly took the towel from her hands and earnestly began drying her hair.

Once it was nearly done, Tyler added, “Wait a moment, I’ll get the hairdryer.”

Tyler headed towards the bathroom while Vicky stood in place, gazing at his towering figure of the man.

A faint hint of bitterness welled up within her when recalled that it had been a while since he helped her with her baths, dried her hair, or even cooked for her.

When Tyler returned with the hairdryer, ninjanovel.com Vicky had her eyes closed and sat quietly on the couch.

Although she was displeased, she refrained from throwing a tantrum considering how hectic work had been for him lately.

Relationships could not withstand frequent arguments, and Vicky did not want to damage their bond over trivial matters.

Tyler walked up behind her, switched on the hairdryer, and started drying her hair. His fingers moved deftly and smoothly through her hair, skilfully and elegantly, an enchanting sight when seen in the mirror. Instantly, there was no other sound in the room besides the hum of the hairdryer.

After a while, Vicky's hair was finally dry, and Tyler turned off the hairdryer.

"Why did you deceive me?" Vicky's voice broke the silence.

Tyler paused his movements and looked down at Vicky. His voice was low and calm, and his face showed no signs of panic.

"Vicky, I didn't deceive you." Vicky stared into his eyes.

"Isn't concealing the truth a form of deception?"

"Do you think I've been concealing the truth?"

"Isn't that the case?"

"Why would I conceal anything?"

"That's something you should ask yourself."

"You only think I'm hiding something because I was meeting with Aria, a woman. If she was a man or some other business partner, would you still think that I'm hiding something?"

Vicky's breath hitched as she was rendered speechless.

Tyler managed a gigantic business and his schedule was packed with meetings with business partners; some of these partners were women and it was not rare for him to dine with them alone.

Vicky understood that it was merely the nature of his work, just like how she had to meet with female clients to design clothes for them.

If she had run into Tyler dining with another male business partner, she would not think anything of it because Tyler had informed her that he had something urgent to deal with.

However, things were different if Aria was involved. Vicky was trying her best to see from Tyler's perspective, but the more she tried, the more she cared.

Chapter 919

Vicky's lips moved as she attempted to speak, but she simply could bring herself to say words against her mind.

Tyler was not one who enjoyed explaining himself, and upon seeing Vicky fall into silence, he furrowed his brow.

"I didn't intentionally hide anything from you. It's just that whenever I had something come up, you never asked," he reluctantly explained.

He gazed silently into Vicky's eyes, his magnetic black eyes — filled with her presence.

"To me, she's no different from any ordinary business partner. Since there's no difference, why should I make her an exception?" Vicky understood Tyler's point.

In his perspective, Aria was merely an ordinary business partner, and whether she was a man or a woman, beautiful or ugly, made no difference whatsoever.

He did not care about her, nor did he consider her to be anything special in his heart, so he did not see the reason in mentioning her to Vicky as by doing so, he would be making Aria a special case. Some of the gloom in Vicky's heart was dispersed as she accepted his explanation.

"Why was she holding your arm, then?" Vicky felt slightly displeased.

"It seemed like you two were close."

"When we entered the restaurant, she stumbled and happened to grab onto me. She just hadn't let go by the time we saw you inside."

"Really?"

"If you don't believe me, I can have someone send in the surveillance footage." Tyler's explanation finally eased Vicky's heart.

"I'll trust you this time."

Tyler corrected her, "It's not about trusting me once; it's about always trusting me."

Vicky relaxed and deliberately said, "I'll have to see your performance before deciding if I'm going to believe you, though."

Tyler leaned down and picked her up abruptly.

“Is that so?”

His thin lips brushed against her ear, his warm breath caressing her face, and his voice became low and eager.

“It seems that I haven’t had time to impress you lately and you’re unsatisfied.”

Vicky quickly realized the underlying meaning in Tyler’s tone, and her face grew pink.

“Tyler, quit the nonsense...Mmph!”

Vicky’s voice was instantly swallowed by his kiss.

With that, the incident came to an end.

Tyler remained busy as usual, but Vicky gradually grew more at ease and felt less unsettled.

One day, Cece suddenly said to Vicky in a mysterious tone, “Vicky, in another ten minutes, Jennifer will arrive at the studio.”

Vicky was taken aback but soon exclaimed with delight, “Jennifer is back in Stoneford City?! When did she come back?”

“Hehe! She arrived this morning.”

“Why didn’t you tell me earlier? We should’ve gone to the airport to pick her up.”

“Jennifer wanted to surprise you, so she didn’t want me to say anything in advance.”

Cece grinned and continued, “After spending half a year at home, she got bored. As soon as she got off the plane, she couldn’t wait and started working right away. She has a meeting with a client who wants to see our studio right now, so she’s bringing the client along...She said that it’s a really wealthy client!”

Before meeting Vicky, Jennifer was merely a noble lady who had too much free time on her hand. She was not at all interested in business, and her family was so wealthy that she had nothing much to do apart from tending to flowers.

When a person did not know what to do with their time, they would start looking for something to focus on, and for Jennifer, she started fantasizing about her love life.

Ever since she started working, she stopped focusing on Anthony and cast him aside without a care about what he and Lily would do.

As they spoke, the doorbell rang.

“That must be Jennifer with our client! I’ll open the door,” Cece said.

Some clients would prefer to see where the designers work, and it was hardly unusual.

Vicky walked to the entrance to greet Jennifer and the client as well. The door opened, and as expected, Jennifer and the client she found stood outside.

Vicky was about to welcome them, only to freeze when she had a clearer look at the client's face.

Chapter 920

"Vicky, I'm back to work!" Jennifer first embraced Vicky, then turned to the man beside her.

"Sir, please come in. This is our studio."

The handsome, elegant man smiled as he looked at Vicky.

"Ms. Shaw, we meet again." Jennifer looked at the man in surprise.

"Sir, do you.. know Vicky?"

The man did not explain much but simply smiled and said, "I've met Ms. Shaw a few times."

Jennifer did not show any further signs of surprise.

After all, it was evident that he was a person of wealth and status judging from the way he dressed and his manner of speaking.

Moreover, since Vicky was married to Tyler, it seemed normal that she would meet different people in the elite society.

Jennifer warmly invited him, saying, "Sir, please come inside. The man nodded slightly. This man had a refined way of speaking, an elegant demeanor, ninjanovel.com and extraordinary qualities, which made him the kind of client that Jennifer liked the most. After showing the man around the studio, Jennifer asked, "

Sir, what do you think? Are you satisfied with our studio?"

"It's not bad. I'm quite satisfied."

Jennifer's eyes brightened.

"Does that mean..."

The man smiled and said, "I can sign the contract right now."

"Sir, please wait here for a moment. I'll go print the contract, "

Jennifer blurted out.

The man nodded gently.

Jennifer went to print the contract while Cece went to boil water for tea, leaving Vicky alone with the man.

"Sir, would you like to have a seat at my desk?" Vicky asked.

"Sure."

After entering the office, Vicky cut to the chase.

“Sir, don’t tell me you don’t know that this is my studio.”

The man did not fake confusion and admitted directly, “Of course, I knew.”

“In that case, why are you...”

“I came here this time with something I wanted to tell you, but you know that I can’t let Tyler know about my existence. I hope you can understand, Ms. Shaw.”

Vicky stared at him.

“Is it something important?”

After a long pause, the man asked, “How are things between you and Tyler lately?”

Confused by his question, Vicky asked, “What are you implying, Sir?”

“My question isn’t that hard to answer. Just answer honestly. An ominous feeling overwhelmed Vicky. After remaining silent for a while, she said truthfully, “Not bad.”

“Do you have any idea what he’s been doing lately?”

“He’s been caught up with work lately.” Vicky shot the man a confused look.

“Is that not the case?”

“He has indeed been busy with work, but...”

The man paused and pulled out a golden membership card from his pocket.

“If you want to know, just drop by this place.”

She accepted the card and frowned at the name printed on it.

Dark Night Club was a famous club in Stoneford City, and she had heard countless rumors about it in the past.

The club only opened at night and offered all sorts of entertainment to its members.