

Chapter 7

Right after the meeting, everyone has been told by the host to go to the hall where the lunch is being served. I headed to my office to relax and I just sat in my chair and slumped my shoulders.

My mind wanders to the way Kayish looked at me a moment ago. I can't deny that the way he sent the message to me made my worries rise. "You have to be strong, Riya. You can't hurt yourself now, not physically nor mentally. Don't allow him to rule your world again, no more hiding and afraid of him." I said to myself and repeated it like a mantra to make myself stronger.

"Hey, you there! I'm looking for you everywhere." Juliet's voice snapped me out of my reverie. She peeked his face at my door and gave me a worried look once she saw my uncomfortable face.

"Hi, Juliet. Are you not joining the lunch?" I gave her a tight smile and tried to make the conversation neutral. Guess she already has another thing in her mind, cause she just kept her hands on her hips and stared at me deeply like I had committed some unforgettable sin.

"Tell me what happened, Riya. You are hiding something. Is it only stomachache which bugging you since the boss showed up?" She asked and took a seat in front of me.

"Hey, you okay? Is the stomachache really serious?" Her voice turned into a concern once she noticed my sweating and pale face. My body was sweating profusely and my heart was thundering heavily against my chest, and I believe I lost the color of my face as my worries took over my emotion this time.

"I'm fine, Julie. My stomach is feeling better now; just worried about

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Sweetie. She said there was a boy giving her trouble yesterday and I can't stop myself from worrying. That's all." I lied but she was not convinced at all.

"I know there's more into it, but I won't push you, Riya. Just remember, I'm here if you need someone to share, and my shoulders are always ready for rent." She teased me and this made me smile. She's really a sweet person, I'm really lucky to meet her and have her in the same company.

Or else I must have felt lonely.

"Anyway, let's go." Suddenly, she grabbed my hand and dragged me out of my office. "Julie! Where are you taking me?" I asked sounded more confusing.

She stopped for a minute and eyed me up and down. "Riya, I know you haven't had anything yet, and your body needs some delicious meal now. As a good friend of yours, I will make you eat and make sure you're healthy enough to worry about Sweetie or anything else. Let's go to the hall and eat something. The foods are amazing; I've seen the variants of the menu before hunting you down to your office." Her face lit up by the mention of food.

Oh! No. Not there. I need to prepare myself before meeting Kayish in non-formal conditions, only God knows what he planned in his evil mind. But it's too late to tell her no and the next thing I know, we already entered the hall where the variant of food is being served. I just dumbfounded for a moment, not knowing what to do until Mr. Miller's voice snapped me to reality.

"There you are! I've been looking for you, Riya." Mr. Miller exclaimed while walking towards us as he didn't confront me a while ago. "The

arrangement is really good, Riya. I want to personally thank you for what you did, and sorry for my rude comment before." He added and once again engulfed me in a fatherly hug.

Where has his angry mode gone? Hasn't he been angry an hour ago? Moody much. No wonder why Kayish has some state emotion. I now understood where he got the changing emotion from.

Like father like son.

"Anytime, sir." I faked a smile before giving Julie a small smile. Actually, all these credits go to Juliet. She only made this arrangement, not me. But since he strictly told me to arrange the meeting by myself, I can't tell him the truth. If I do it will affect both my and Julie's job.

I mouthed a 'thank you' when Mr. Miller gave his attention to Julie but being a bingo she just winked before flashing a shy smile towards Mr. Miller and stood casually.

"Come on, I will introduce both of you to my son personally. I guess you guys haven't properly introduced yet since you're a project manager-" He then turned his attention towards Juliet and continued, "And you're his PA. I think both of you need to know him more than any other person here." He added and guided us to meet Kayish.

Oh.....No.. no... no. A BIG NO! This is the last thing I need for today. I have enough of Kayish. But I think I can't help myself for this moment as Juliet is ready to meet the boss personally, and Mr. Miller's reason is very true. So I just followed Juliet who is following Mr. Miller's direction.

I can't help but look at the surroundings to find the sign of Kayish and spotted his tall figure talking with a bimbo. He is thrice my size and shorter than me. Maybe 5.3 inches.

"He seemed busy sir, so maybe another time--" I tried to reason out hoping he will understand and postpone the introduction any other day, but he's not buying it.

"No... He is not. He has been dying out of boredom. So introducing him to a beauty like you would make his heart warm" He sheepishly smiled at me and it made Juliet spit the coke she was drinking. Poor girl, her reaction was priceless like me, and where she gets the coke anyway? Am I distracted that much? Oh god,, I think it is not a good sign, I can't even relate to the reality around me before I face Kayish.

Juliet seemed embarrassed by her outcome, the same way I do. So, she excused herself and walked to the restroom, probably for cleaning the mess she had caused.

"Relax, girl. I'm just kidding. My son will not swallow you." He tried to cut my worry that I am trying to hide and turned his attention to the direction of where his son is standing.

"Kayish, Son." He called his name. For a second, I wanted to run out of this place and hide or make myself invisible if it is possible. And like God heard what I prayed, Juliet came just at the right time and joined us.

A big relief!

Being an obedient son, he turned around and walked towards our direction. He then stood beside his dad while typing something on his phone, not noticing me who was giving him a murderous glare, cursive him to hell internally yet.

He shoved his phone into his pant pocket and turned his attention to Mr. Miller after some minutes. Mr. Miller raised an eyebrow at him but he simply shook his head. It's like they were communicating through their

minds like werewolves do.

Seriously Riya? Werewolf? Where is this coming from although they don't really exist??

"Well, my son. I hope you're not really busy this time." He patted his shoulder and began to introduce us.

"Here is Miss. Riya Kader---" As soon as his dad said my name, his head turned towards me; something victory crossed across his sinful face.

Go to hell, you monkey!

"---The new project manager. She is my friend's daughter. Her dad recommended her to work with us and here is Miss. Juliet Hamen, she will be your PA." Mr. Miller successfully introduced us.

The annoying smirk plastering on his face, he offered me his hand and for another dumb act today, I just stood there staring at him while boiling him in my pressure cooker till there is no more sin left in my sweet vision.

As to ruin my future plan, Juliet elbowed me when I didn't take his hand right away.

"Hello, Boss. It's good to finally meet you." I shook his hand politely even though in my mind, hundreds of different scenarios are running. I wish I could able to rip that smirk on his face with my long nails. But being a jerk he has another plan in his mind and tightened our hand than necessary and the smirk on his face is as clear as a day he's not letting my hand go anytime soon.

I really wish I can direct a punch on his arrogant face.

To be continued---

