

Tasting Nora-Pleasing Her Stepbrother Mates #Tasting 41 - Read Tasting Nora-Pleasing Her Stepbrother Mates Tasting 41

Tasting 41

41–Dragged Into His Room

Nora:

We got back home, and I headed straight to bed. I was still unsure who had placed the baby monster in my bathroom that night. Nash only assisted partially. The main plan was carried out by someone who hadn't expected to lose the baby by the end of it.

I sighed and twirled the ring on my finger, checking on Akira. I remembered how lost and disheveled she had been after I had to temporarily shut her away to prevent us from getting into another sticky situation by acting all horny.

'How are you? I had to stop him before things got out of hand and we got hurt,' I mumbled guiltily, waiting for her response.

'Or maybe you're overthinking. What if he sees things differently now? We're his mate, and he genuinely cares about us,' she said softly, indicating her discontent with me shutting her out and preventing what could have been a potential mating.

'Don't even go there. You know that's not why we're here, right?' I shifted in bed, glancing out the large window behind me and lying on my stomach.

I'm just telling you how it is. He takes care of us not just because he's afraid we'll tell anyone about the mate bond,' she said, pretty much answering why he takes care of us herself, so I didn't feel the need to add anything to her comment.

'Anyway, I have to sleep now. Tomorrow's a big day. I'll be persuading Lord Atwood to let me party and will see which of the brothers has to

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tag along,' I said, wanting to move on from the topic..

The strange part was that whenever Ryker's name came up in conversation, I felt my nipple getting hard, as if he were still sucking on it. Just the thought of my boob being exposed in front of him made.

me uneasy.

With that, I drifted off to sleep and woke up early in the morning to loud noises outside my bedroom. I dragged myself out of bed and approached the door, peeking outside. All content

“I said, get lost!” Silas shouted at a young omega maid.

The maid appeared young, probably a little older than me.

She had her brown short hair all messy, and her green eyes stuck to the ground in shame. Silas’ bedroom was on the top floor, so why the heck was he yelling on the floor where my bedroom was?

“What’s going on?” I intervened when I realized he wasn’t letting her go. He kept yelling in her face while she meekly stood with her back against the wall.

“You! Don’t interrupt me,” Silas pointed at me and grunted. Even when he was yelling, his voice was rough and deep. He pronounced words very slowly and didn’t move around too much either. His hands were still in his pants’ pockets as he hunched over, groaning in her face.

“So, who is going to fix it? Are you going to type it all out for me?” he muttered, demanding eye contact.

“I’m sorry, but I can’t type,” she uttered, squeezing her body even closer.

“Hmm! So then what should we do? Should I fire you and your mother? Should I punish you and your family to clean the prison cell.

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That was it. I wouldn’t let him bully someone because of a mistake like that. I rushed out of the door wearing my typical short night outfit and stepped between them. It was easy to put my hands on his chest because he never brought his hands out. He knew, even without his body language being aggressive, he was pretty intimidating. I pushed him, or at least tried. Only his right shoulder twisted back, but he didn’t step back.

“That’s enough. She made a mistake, and she’s sorry. What else do you want her to do now?” I hissed, watching him stare at my face for a moment before he stepped closer, and I gulped.

“Do you know what she did?” he hunched over me this time, his grey eyes from behind his glasses making me shudder.

“No,” I replied meekly.

“Then why are you acting like you’re part of this conversation?” he didn’t yell, only grunted, but that was enough to make me feel uneasy. I gulped again and turned to face the girl. “What did you do?” I had seen Mia around. She was Galinda’s daughter, who had been a maid for the brothers for a very long time.

“I accidentally closed the document he was working on without saving it,” she mumbled.

“Actually, I was holding the laptop without realizing I was selecting the text, and then it got deleted, and the blank page is all that’s left there.” She kept her head down as she responded to me. So, I didn’t know much about laptops and stuff, but I knew we could sometimes recover deleted files. However, if Silas was so angry, it must be non-

retrievable.

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“And?” Silas whispered from behind me, prompting her to tell the full story. But it was the way his voice sounded from behind me that made me sneakily hug myself. I hated how hormonal I was this early in the morning.

“And it was the files for the sick member that he had to submit to the council today,” she added, and I understood why he was losing his mind.

“Oh,” I pouted, “why don’t you type it all again?” I turned to look at Silas, who still had his hands in his pants when he could be using those fingers and putting them to work.

The heck! Why did the mention of his fingers feel so weird?

“Because I don’t type. I’m a pack’s healer, a doctor, not some kid who spends time typing assignments on his laptop,” he sounded like a brat, but I didn’t say it to his face, or else he would lose his mind at me.

“Got it. My typing speed is good; I could have helped you—” I had only said it until then, thinking he would never ask me for help, but he proved me wrong with how unpredictable he could be. He grasped my arm and began pulling me to the staircase.

“Good. If you want me to forgive her and not punish her family, and since you want to be her hero, sit your a*s in my room and type it all out,” I was amazed at how he didn’t even let me grab another

set of outfit and dragged me to the floor I didn’t even know existed on my first day of arrival here.

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Tasting 42

42–His Hands All Over My Body

Nora:

His bedroom was shrouded in darkness, with heavy purple curtains and a large bed dominating the center of the room. The walls were adorned solely with ancestral picture frames, devoid of any images of his immediate family, not even his brothers.

“Here,” he tossed me onto the couch by the window, then handed me the laptop from the table nearby. Instead of simply flicking on the lights, he leaned over the couch and pulled apart the curtains.

“Start typing!” he commanded, folding his arms over his chest and fixing his gaze on me.

“I haven’t even freshened up yet,” I protested, watching as he remained motionless, not even blinking.

I was still trying to shake off the scent of his bedroom. It was as if he had saturated the walls with it. The gentle aroma of sandalwood enveloped the room, and now I found myself inhaling it.

“It’s not like it would make any difference,” his comment made me frown. Determined not to let him bully me, I attempted to stand up, but he casually pushed me back, and I landed back on the couch.

“What is wrong with you? I’m not your captive,” I frowned at him and I could tell that he didn’t like me talking back to him.

“Move, and she loses her job,” he said, resting his foot on the couch after removing his shoe and then leaning menacingly over. The fact that even when so aggressive, he first made sure he didn’t leave any

42 His Hands All Over My Body

dirt on his couch said a lot about him.

“That’s unfair,” I remarked.

“Then you shouldn’t have intervened. Now it’s up to you,” he muttered, refusing to budge until I sighed and rolled my eyes.

“Fine,” I hissed, and he withdrew his foot. He stretched and cracked his knuckles before focusing on me again,

“Make sure you don’t touch any of my stuff, and don’t dirty any of my belongings,” he warned, clarifying why he always carried napkins. He would swiftly clean his possessions whenever needed.

“Can I at least go and change into something more comfortable?” I had to cover my chest as the cold wind from behind made my nipples harden.

“Huh?” He turned around to focus on me, finally noticing what I was talking about. He looked away nonchalantly, displaying no emotions on his face, and then sighed.

“Don’t be overdramatic. I won’t be in the room for now. If by the time I come back and you’ve done half of the work, I’ll give you a break to go change,” he shrugged, fixing his hair with his fingers in the mirror before exiting the room.

I was in disbelief. “What an idiot!” I groaned, twisting my ring to let Akira calm me down and warm me up.

‘I suggest you take something from his closet. You can’t leave me hanging because I’m afraid you’ll forget to fix the ring again,’ she was right. I couldn’t take any risks now that I didn’t know which of

the brothers was desperate enough to kick me out, even if it meant losing the monster baby they could have used to make the monster surrender.

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12 Hie Hands All Over My Body

I walked over to his closet and noticed he had several hoodies on

display. I grabbed a grey one and rubbed it between my palms, it was made of soft fabric and still carried his scent, indicating he hadn’t washed it after wearing it.

‘Ah! So the ones in the front are supposed to go for a wash,’ I commented to myself. ‘If I wear something new and clean, he’ll get angry,’ I reasoned, deciding to wear the gray hoodie in my hands as it was relatively clean compared to the other clothes.

As I put it on, it felt like I was being embraced by someone comforting. I sighed and took my seat. Despite feeling hungry, I began typing the words from the file into his laptop. I knew he could have done it himself, he had done it before.

I even wondered if he was feasting and relaxing while I was doing his work for him?

With all the thoughts swirling in my head, I kept going for about two hours until I heard footsteps approaching the bedroom. I felt proud of myself because I had written quite a lot in those two hours. I applied what I had learned from school and made the document extremely organized.

“Look! I’m almost done already,” I cheered as Silas arrived, his head buried in his phone.

“Hmm, how much is left? Because I want you out of my room soon,” he muttered under his breath, seeming disinterested as always.

“Just a little more,” I replied, feeling disappointed when he didn’t compliment me on my writing speed. That was rude of him.

He reached his closet and slipped his phone into his pocket before pausing briefly.

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Hands All Over My Body

“Did you go through my closet?” His tone hardened, and as he turned to look at me, shock registered on his face.

I was taken aback that he was finally showing some emotion. He stood frozen, staring at me blankly.

“Oh yeah, I was feeling cold, so I grabbed something from the dirty clothes. Don’t worry, you’ll get it back once it’s washed.” I replied cheerfully, not realizing it would be such a big deal. However, I didn’t know how sensitive he could be.

I must have been too naive to ignore all the times the brothers had shown their hatred for me.

“Take it off,” he finally spoke up in his low, threatening voice.

“I will, don’t worry. It’s not like I’m stealing it,” I rolled my eyes, quickly typing to finish the work and leave the room to return his precious hoodie.

“I said take it off now,” he repeated, causing me to raise my head and stare at him in bewilderment.

“Fine,” after a few seconds passed, I realized it wasn’t a good idea to test him.

As I began to put the laptop away, he rushed towards me, not even waiting when I told him I would take it off myself.

And the next thing I knew, his hands were all over me.

Tasting 43

43—I Hate My Stepbrothers

Nora:

“F**king let go off me,” I screamed, trying to lift my legs to create a barrier between us, but he seized my feet and bent them, causing me to gasp as my body was pushed back onto the couch. He gripped my neck, clutching the hoodie and starting to pull it up.

“What the hell! You’re hurting me,” I continued yelling and thrashing my arms around when I noticed him shifting his hands to my stomach to grasp the fabric and pull the hoodie over my head. However, in the process, he accidentally grabbed my nightshirt.

I knew he had done it because as he straddled me with his knee on the couch beside me, pulling the fabric up, I felt the cold air on my exposed skin.

“Silas! You have my cami in your hands,” the shortness of breath made it difficult for me to argue with him or even speak loudly.

He pressed his body against my chest while I was further leaned back on the couch. In one swift motion, he removed his hoodie, and along with it, he nearly pulled off my nightdress over my head.

I didn’t know if he even saw my naked breasts because I don’t wear a bra when sleeping. But all I could do was adjust my nightdress while tears streamed down my face.

“Don’t ever f**king touch my stuff, you hear me?” he tossed his hoodie onto the ground and leaned over again to point his finger in my face.

As he yelled, I felt anger surge through my entire body. I couldn’t

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believe he didn’t even apologize for almost leaving me naked.

It was the kind of humiliation that demanded immediate justice. And I delivered. I raised my hand while he was berating me and pointing his finger in my face.

I slapped him hard across his face until he fell silent and his finger froze.

“You” He closed his eyes, adjusting his glasses, and when he opened them again, the silver in his eyes had turned to black.

“You bitch,” his voice boomed, and then he raised his hand towards me. I yelped and instinctively moved back, but his hand didn’t reach my face. Someone had stopped him.

“What the f**k are you doing? You’re not going to hurt her, are you?” It was Ryker, all dressed in black and ready to leave to train the warriors.

“She slapped me,” Silas turned to his brother and hissed. Ryker closed his eyes for a moment before staring back at his brother.

“She took off my clothes,” I screamed, refusing to let Silas take control of the situation and portray himself as a victim when he had violated me. I was in disarray from the struggle we had just moments ago.

“What?” Ryker didn’t release Silas’ hand as he constantly pulled him back and away from me.

“I had no idea he would react like this over his hoodie. I was cold, so I decided to wear his hoodie while I typed his work for him as he enjoyed a hot breakfast,” I continued, tears streaming down my

face, sniffing and sobbing until my breath caught in my throat.

Ryker watched me with a frown before he pushed his brother aside,

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43–Hate My Stepbrothers

who made another attempt to reach me.

“It should be an eye for an eye,” Silas screamed, still unmoved by the tears he caused me. I felt insulted, but he didn’t seem to care.

“Silas!” Ryker yelled, and the momentary pause Silas took to listen was when Ryker seized the opportunity and ushered him into the bathroom, quickly locking the door from the outside.

“Take a cold shower and come out when you’ve calmed down,” Ryker yelled, keeping an eye on the door that Silas was determined to break down.

Ryker then turned to look at me, but before he could say anything, I hissed.

“I can’t believe you guys are so dense and self-centered. Is my self-esteem worth nothing? How could he think he could-strip me just because I made the mistake of wearing his hoodie?” Now I knew that Silas must have realized he nearly undressed me. I mean, my entire shirt was pulled up to my neck, leaving my breasts exposed.

He didn’t even seem guilty when I told Ryker what he did.

“He must not have noticed. His glasses were foggy and-” as Ryker began to defend his brother, I gasped.

“And you’re defending his actions?” I just don’t know, but I felt maybe someone not triggered at the moment would react more thoughtfully.

“F**k you and your brother,” I muttered and stomped my foot.

“Get out,” Ryker reacted the same way Silas did.

“Get the hell out of here. You have no right to trigger him like that. Just get the hell out and stay away from us if we bother you so much,”

43 Hate My Stepbrothers

it seemed like he was implying that I was intentionally putting myself in these situations.

I mean, was I not? Shouldn’t I have learned by now that I shouldn’t be interacting with them?

I watched Ryker’s face in disbelief for a moment before I walked out of the door in tears. The more steps I took, the louder my sobs became. And the next thing I knew, I was running downstairs to cry in my

room.

I didn’t expect the day to start like that. As I reached my floor, I bumped into Cain, who was carrying some bags of paints and other supplies, heading in the direction of his studio.

I stopped but intended to pass him when he blocked my way by extending his arm across my path.

“Come on, carry these bags with me,” he stunned me when he nonchalantly signaled to the omega behind him to place the bags and leave.

“Huh?” I raised my head, and our eyes met.

“Carry my bags,” he repeated, not even waiting for my response before he bent over and loaded a big bag into my arms.

“Follow me to my studio,” he hissed and started walking away. I was so shocked by how casually he acted that my dumbass followed him when I should have dropped the bag and just left for my room to continue crying.

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Tasting 44

44—He Wants Me To Be Wet

Nora:

I trailed behind Cain, catching his scent as soon as I entered his studio, then timidly cleared my throat.

“Should I leave it here?” I asked, my voice nasal from silent tears,

wanting to release a wail. I shouldn’t have carried his bag but now that I did, I decided to leave in peace.

Cain tossed his bags onto the nearby couch before turning to face me. “Leave them here,” he gestured to the other sofa.

I walked past him, feeling his presence behind me, his hands clutching brushes, his eyes fixed on me.

“Why were you crying?” he asked casually.

I turned to face him, wiping my cheek with the back of my hand, ensuring my hair covered my chest despite wearing a nightshirt. Gathering myself, I explained, “I woke up to Silas screaming at the Omega. So, I offered to help, but he didn’t even wait for me to get comfortable and dragged me to his bedroom. He then made me type his work. While I was left alone, I felt cold in my nightdress—” I paused as Cain stopped nodding and raised his eyes to my shirt. “A little short,” I whispered awkwardly, “so I wore his hoodie. But when he returned, he began to yell and snatch his hoodie away without caring about

accidentally stripping me—” I paused, noticing him close his eyes and wince slightly.

“Why didn’t you change before going with him?” He set his brushes down and slipped his hands into his khaki pants.

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He Wants Me To Be Wet

“I thought once he told me what needed to be done, he would let me go to change and return,” I defended myself, feeling like he was blaming

1. me.

“He would let you?” he scoffed, taking a step closer, “are you his slave?”

I shook my head.

“Then why did you give him that power to control you over basic needs. of decency?” he murmured, his eyes glaring at me.

I couldn’t discern his true feelings; his eyes were inscrutable.

“I’ll remember that for next time,” I murmured. There was not much I could say because I am sure he was as controlling and rude as his own brother.

“Okay,” he nodded faintly.

“I’ll head back to my room then,” I said, feeling awkward and shy in his studio. It reminded me of his behavior on the day I arrived here.

“Nora!”

I had barely stepped out the door when his call stopped me in my

tracks.

“That nightdress is silk, right?” he questioned, and I lowered my head to confirm before giving him a nod. I stared at my cami and then at his

face.

“Hmm, if water falls on it, will it become transparent?” His question startled me, but I tried to play it cool..

“What?” I asked, confused, and he shook his head, looking away.

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44 He Wants Me To Be Wer

“Nothing, you can leave now,” he sighed, turning his back on me, leaving me frozen in my spot.

I returned to my room, but the urge to cry and wail had dissipated. The interaction with Cain had left me puzzled. As I stood in the bathroom, preparing to freshen up, I found myself staring at my reflection in the mirror, then glancing behind me at the shower head.

“Will water make it transparent?” I repeated his question to myself. With determination, I turned on the shower and stepped under it, still wearing my nightdress. Soon, it was drenched, clinging to my body’s curves. Blushing, I looked away shyly.

“Why would he ask me that?” I growled softly, mixed with a hint of embarrassment.

‘Maybe he was imagining you as his art?’ Akira’s words made me tilt my head, continuing to examine myself in the mirror.

‘I mean, I am good-looking, but why would he want to wet his sister and paint her?’ Saying it out loud turned my cheeks crimson.

‘I don’t know. I guess we’ll find out the night we have to stay in his studio,’ she replied, causing me to further bite my bottom lip.

The reminder of it gave me an odd feeling. But before I could dwell on it, thoughts of Silas flooded my mind, and my mood shifted again. I was upset about how he had acted with me and didn’t even seem guilty. On top of that, Ryker disappointed me even more.

After dressing in a black shirt and blue skinny jeans, I left the room to have lunch with Dad instead of breakfast. I couldn’t bear to face

breakfast because of Silas.

“Nora! What happened to you? You didn’t join us for breakfast,” Lord

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44He Wants Me To Be Wer

Atwood questioned, and I glanced around at the brothers. Nash had his head down in his cereal bowl, while Cain and the others watched me.

“Yeah, I woke up late,” feeling like the perpetual disappointment, I responded. I should have just told Dad everything.

“Um, Dad, I need to ask you something,” I adjusted in my seat, avoiding the stares.

“Sure, it’ll be the first time you’re asking for something,” Dad, unlike his sons, was calm and sweet, not just to me but to everyone in the pack. His sons were the biggest douchebags I had ever seen.

“There’s this party at the royal beta’s house, thrown by his daughter April. I was thinking if I could go there with Natalya,” I uttered, watching him smile at me.

“I am glad you are making friends. And why not?” He smiled but before I could completely celebrate, he intervened in my happiness.

“You can have a fun night without anyone judging you or upsetting you. Ryker will tag along for the night to make sure you are safe,” the instant he said his name, I saw the brothers silently laughing as if it was the worst thing to ever happen to someone. In fact, Ryker seemed offended, and then he did what I least expected from him, especially since he and I had been bonding a lot better than with the others.

“Why me? You should ask Silas who made her cry in the morning,” everyone went silent, and Silas grunted. However, now we had to tell our dad what happened between us in the morning.

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Tasting 45

45–They Like Checking Me Out

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“Tell me what happened?” Lord Atwood’s tone shifted, and he glared

at Shas

“He pressured her into doing his work and then ripped his hoodie off her when she felt cold and tried to cover herself with it. She was crying, and he was looming over her, ready to hit her.” Ryker, who now seemed eager to pin my responsibility on his brother’s shoulders. was no longer defending Silas

I silently observed them pulling each other’s legs. After all, they had made me cry in the morning. However, what I failed to notice was that Nash had stopped eating and was now glaring at his brothers.

“She hit me first.” Silas slammed his hand on the table and groaned in his deep voice.

“She should have kicked your ass for that,” just as I watched Lord Atwood about to say something. Nash angrily intervened.

“Do you have any shame?” he continued to berate his brother, but I observed him with a raised eyebrow.

“And you didn’t say anything to him until now?” Nash turned his attention to Ryker, but he wasn’t as loud as one might expect.

“Brother! It’s nice that you have morals. I just want to know what happened between Nora and you the other day when she came out of your locked bedroom crying like she had been struck with the

meanest words ever?” his statement caused Silas to look at Nash.

11–He Wants Me To Be Me

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45 They Like Checking Me Out

“Were you saying something?” Silas smirked.

“Nora!”

As they argued, Lord Atwood yelled my name, and I jumped in my scat.

“I’m sending you papers, sign them,” dad said, and I narrowed my eyes in bewilderment.

“What papers?” I asked softly.

“The delay in the coronation of these two who don’t seem to understand a simple thing: they’re not supposed to be rude to you,” as soon as he pointed at Silas and Nash, the two groaned.

“We didn’t mean to do it on purpose,” Nash grunted, “Why are you giving her so much priority over us?”

They were back to arguing about the same thing over and over again. I took a deep breath while they now babbled incoherent words to their father. I steadily pushed my chair back and stood up.

They all fell silent as I stood tall. “Dad, I don’t think I’ll need any of this tonight. Remember Natalya, the girl who killed the monster? She’s willing to take care of me,” I said in the driest tone and then bowed slightly before my father before stepping away.

“What did she mean by that?” I heard Nash grab.

“She meant we’re unable to take care of her because we’re not as strong as her friend,” I bet Ryker scoffed and rolled his eyes.

After that, I could no longer hear them because I had stepped away into my bedroom.

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45–They Like Checking Me Out

‘I think we’ll be fine tonight,’ I told Akira, searching for a dress for the night.

‘I got you. I might not be as powerful as them, and I might be in a cage, but I’m sure there will be someone willing to save your life,’ her taunt made me roll my eyes. She had me in the first half.

'Akira! I can't let you out. If word gets out, they'll ask us to transition. and get a rank. Let them think we're Omegas for now,' I said as I grabbed a mini black dress with golden t-strap shoes.

A knock on the door grabbed my attention, "It's open."

I walked back to the bed and laid down the dress while Lord Atwood entered the room with a huge smile on his lips.

"Dad, what's up?" I asked, noticing that he looked a little sad.

"I don't know why my sons are so difficult towards you. You're such a nice kid; they should be happy to have a sister around," he sighed, checking my dress and then looking happy.

"Please enjoy your time. I'll send a driver and a guard with you as well just in case," now that he knew Natalya would be there, he didn't look too worried.

"I won't worry. As for them," I mentioned the brothers, "I don't want to sign the papers yet. Let's give them one more chance," I wasn't doing this for them, but for their father. I know the more time they take to achieve the crowns, the more it will be delayed, and the packs will

suffer.

"I wish—," he suddenly paused and then shook his head, "never mind.

Go have fun."

After patting my arm gently, he left the room. I went to shower and

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returned to do my makeup. Whenever I get annoyed with someone or someone upsets me, I spend some time with myself. I do my hair and my makeup and then just wash it all off and go to bed. But for the first time in my life, I had somewhere to go after getting ready.

I walked downstairs in my high heels with much care. I could see the brothers sitting with their father in the living room, talking about pack matters when they suddenly fell silent.

"Nora! My daughter looks like a princess," Lord Atwood voiced, smiling comfortably at me.

“Thank you, I’ll come back home a little late; hope that would be fine,” I said, avoiding the eyes of the brothers who I noticed had gone silent

too.

While watching my dad. I could see their faces too from my peripheral vision. Ryker had his head down, but his eyes were peeking through his thick eyebrows. Cain was using his phone with one hand in his hoodie’s pocket, but he had raised the phone to such a height that one might think he was taking a picture of me. Nash was cracking his knuckles and neck, acting like he hadn’t seen me, but I swear our eyes met a few times when he pretended not to look.

As for Cain, he wasn’t shying away from scanning me. I watched him rub his chin and then stare at me from head to toe, making me squeeze a little in my body and then gulp..

“It will be fine as long as you are safe and happy. The driver will drop you off and wait for you outside,” dad uttered.

“There will be no need. He can come back, and I will call him when I am ready to head back home,” I knew the pack members would feel very conscious with the royal guard and driver outside the mansion where they are partying. So I suggested I would just give them a call to

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45–They Like Checking Me Dur

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pick me up when I am ready.

“Sure, have a great night,” Lord Atwood smiled and began to look at the papers again, but I noticed the brothers now looking at me directly.

It didn’t stop me, and I turned around to leave for the party for the first time in my life.

Tasting 46

46–A New Alpha In Town!

Nora:

“Oh my goodness, her mansion is stunning. No wonder she’s so rude to everyone,” Natalya whispered into my ear, and I nodded, trying to avoid the conversation about

mansions and money. There were far more important things to focus on than to talk about mansions.

“It still doesn’t excuse her from being rude to others,” I murmured under my breath, shaking my head as I watched some of the students from our class making out, not even with their mates.

“Their mates aren’t here. Are they cheating on them?” I asked, looking directly at the couple while Natalya held my hand and pulled me away from them. The place was packed, and the music was deafening. I had to constantly sigh to catch my breath and glance around. The smell of alcohol was also making me feel drowsy.

“Nora! Why didn’t you text me when you arrived?” Just when I thought I could stand in the corner and blend into the wall, only emerging when it was time to leave for home, I heard April’s cheerful voice, and then she rushed in my direction. She was wearing a purple mini-dress that barely covered her underwear.

“Oh my! You look fantastic,” she exclaimed, grabbing my hand after giving me a quick hug and then scanning me from head to toe.

I noticed Natalya smiling widely, waiting for her turn to be greeted by April. Natalya looked cute in a pink dress with a pink beanie on her

head.

I wished April could show some decency and greet her properly. I

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didn’t care much about hanging around with certain people. I loved being by myself anyway. Natalya was a good friend, so I got lucky. As for Natalya, I could tell she wanted attention and for people to like her.

“So, who came with you?” she then looked behind me and met with a wall, so she started to look around.

“Actually, Lord Atwood decided that I would be taking care of her for the night,” that was the perfect moment for Natalya to jump in and remind April that she was also there. April let go of my hands and turned her head to Natalya, sparing her a quick glance before she pulled her nose up in disgust.

“Hello,” Natalya added again..

“Yeah, I saw you. You look—” April turned to her and crossed her arms over her chest.

“Amazing.” I helped her complete her

sentence before she ended up

hurting Natalya's feelings with her nonsense.

"Thank you," Natalya giggled and rocked her body a little.

"So, none of the brothers came? I mean, Ryker was going to come, right?" the sad pout on April's face was a clear indication that she was expecting him to come. I mean, I wasn't stupid to not notice that she was mentioning his name way too many times.

And while I didn't feel like I was in a state or had a relationship that would make me feel jealous, I was feeling jealous. I don't know why, but whenever she said his name, I was bothered.

"No, he was busy. Besides, I love Natalya's company. You know, walking around with your stepbrother who is so overprotective could be a bit of a mess," I bet I sounded like a fool, but April bought it. Even

1125 D

New Alpha in Town

Natalya nodded.

"So, why don't you stay over for the night, and then Ryker can come pick you up later?" April once again suggested another scenario that inevitably led her to talk about Ryker, and I shook my head..

"Actually, the driver will come to pick me up. He will drop Natalya off too," I mumbled, feeling a bit uncomfortable with this topic now.

Her constant mention of Ryker in every conversation was a bit tiresome. I didn't want to hear about those brothers who treated me poorly and didn't even care about my feelings.

"Okay!" April sighed. "By the way, have you met my cousin?" She abruptly grabbed my arm and began to pull me away from Natalya towards a crowd of boys. Natalya hurried and held my other hand so she wouldn't be left behind.

"Um, why do I need to meet your cousin?" I argued, but she was so forceful with the pulling that I ended up in the kitchen where a few guys were taking shots.

"Because he's cute," she added, giggling as she pointed at a tall blonde
guy.

“There will be no—” Well, I was going to deny it, but looking at the hawk-eyed guy whose jawline could cut anyone’s throat made me choke on my words. He had a beautifully sculpted face with blue eyes sparkling from afar.

“What happened?” he must have noticed April pointing at him, so he called out. I cleared my throat and then quickly ran my hand through my hair.

She wasn’t lying, he was cute.

17

“I want you to meet Nora Atwood.” my heart flipped inside my chest. when she mentioned my name alongside Lord Atwood’s. I know I was known as the stepdaughter, but I didn’t have any connection or legal binding to them.

“Oh!” he smirked. finishing his drink and gesturing for his friends to continue without him. They were all gathered around the kitchen counter when we interrupted them.

“Hi. I’m Brody Donovan, alpha of Silver Jaws Pack,” he reached us with one hand in his khaki pants and extended his hand.

Alpha! Of course, he was an alpha material.

“Hi. I’m Nora.” I uttered. feeling shy for some reason. As he shook hands with me. I noticed how strong his grasp could be yet how gentle he was.

“Nora! That’s a pretty name.” he said, then leaned in to look into my eyes, “that’s the most perfect green I have ever seen in my life,” he whispered when complimenting my eyes. I shrunk into myself more and awkwardly mouthed a ‘thank you.’”

“I’m Natalya, I’m her friend,” Natalya quickly stepped between us with her hand up for a shake.

“Hey, Natalya,” unlike his cousin April, he was much more welcoming and sweet towards her.

“Natalya, why don’t you come with me and let them talk,” however, things escalated quickly when April grabbed Natalya’s hand and started dragging her toward the living room.

“Um,” as I looked over to watch them walk away, I didn’t realize that Brody had noticed my actions. He bent over into my ear from behind

4 New Alpha in Town

and whispered something that made the hair on the back of my neck.

stand up.

“Are

you afraid of being left alone with me? Don't worry, I don't hurt pretty girls like you.”

11:25

Tasting 47

47—Oh Alpha Brody!

Nora:

“So, tell me about yourself,” I turned around when he cleared his throat, trying to sound normal. I mean, I heard his husky voice, and now he wanted to continue with a regular conversation?

“What do you want to know about me?” I felt awkward talking to him. I wasn't a very special person, and that had been my biggest complex. I might have done well if nobody tried to control my life.

“Hey, why don't you take a shot with us?” Suddenly, his friend pushed him aside but then wrapped his arm around his neck to talk to me.

“I don't drink,” I shook my head, thinking that would be all I needed to say to get him off my back.

“Oh, come on, everybody drinks,” his friend insisted, “I'm Paxton, by the way,” he abruptly mentioned, but instead of going for a handshake, he tried to shove a drink into my hands..

“I don't like to drink,” I refused to hold the drink, even going as far as pulling my hands behind my back to avoid it.

“Oh, don't be shy,” he insisted and started tapping the glass on my stomach. Brody pulled his hand away and grabbed the drink out of his friend's hand.

“She said she doesn't drink,” he then unwrapped his friend's arm and eyed him to step back.

“Geez! I was just being nice,” the guy was heavily drunk, so I couldn't

47 Oh Mph Brody!

judge him. Maybe he acts differently when he's sober?

“Don’t worry about him. He won’t bother you again, at least until the alcohol is out of his system,” Brody smiled weakly, almost as if he was apologizing for his friend’s behavior.

“Thank-,” I was in the process of thanking him when I heard a loud, blood–curdling scream from outside.

I knew whose voice it belonged to. It was Natalya.

I shared a glance with Brody, who seemed worried too, before I sped. out of the kitchen to see what was going on.

Natalya was sitting on the ground with her hand wrapped around her ankle, tears brimming in her eyes.

“What happened?” I rushed over to her, pushing everyone aside

aggressively. I could see April at the top of the stairs with her friends. And I could also tell that she wasn’t happy that I had come to witness everything.

“They pushed me off the stairs,” Natalya mumbled, her lips curling downwards, and her body shaking.

“What?” I yelled in shock.

April started walking downstairs with a look on her face that made it very clear that she was not at all guilty of her actions or worried about Natalya.

“That’s not what happened. She was talking about her wolf coming out when she’s in despair, so we asked her to show us just that. She couldn’t, so we thought maybe being in despair, her wolf would help her,” she was so nonchalant that even the partygoers nodded as if it justified April throwing her downstairs.

1130

17Ch Alpha Brody!

“Even though you knew there’s a chance her wolf won’t wake up to save her?” I didn’t care if I offended her at this point. This was too much. How dare she lay her hands on my friend. I stood up to face her.

“It was nothing. It’s not like her wolf hadn’t woken up before to save her,” she argued, looking a bit tense now that I was looking at her differently.

“Waking up to save her from a freaking monster is way different than helping her out of a mess with her bullies,” the moment I called her at bully, she gasped and dramatically put her hand to her chest. There was also something wrong with the people around her

because they all acted like it was something that came out of the blue. They were all watching her face like in no way shape or form she could be described as a bully.

“How could you call me a bully? I’ve been so nice to you and your friend.” she started whimpering, covering her face with her hands constantly. I could tell it was all an act. Had she known I was not the stepdaughter of the lord, her response would have been much different. She would have definitely thrown me down the cliff as well. But now, she was using her cunning ways to make me feel bad for her. Too bad. I could only feel bad for one person at a time.

“Natalya, can you get up?” I was done with April and her stupid party already. We shouldn’t have come to this party. On top of that, they never wanted Natalya to join the party anyway, she sort of forced herself into the group and then this happened. April was such an evil

she-wolf.

“I maybe can,” Natalya uttered softly, offering my help and holding my hand while I supported her body and made her stand up.

“You’re leaving?” The audacity of April to be shocked that I no longer wanted to stay here baffled my mind.

1120

“April, don’t continue to talk. You ruined the party yourself. Why the heck would you do that?” I wasn’t the one arguing with her, it was her own cousin calling her out while I wrapped Natalya’s arm around my neck and helped her hop towards the exit.

Everyone was silently watching us, not even offering help, while I could hear April arguing with her cousin. As I reached the exit, I felt the weight of Natalya being lifted away from me.

I turned to the left and watched Brody appear, holding Natalya by her arm.

“Let me carry her,” he offered, and while I was beginning to dismiss his offer, I noticed that Natalya wanted him to help her so that she wouldn’t have to even try to walk. She must be in so much pain.

He carried her while I walked after him to the car parking.

“Just drop her here. I will call my driver, he will come pick us up,” I said, looking at my phone’s screen to dial my driver’s number.

“There will be no need. I can drop you off,” Brody offered, and I turned to stare at Natalya, who eyed me to accept the offer.

“I can’t even stand for a minute, and the driver would take some time to arrive,” she whispered, and I could tell the scratches she got from the fall must have been hurting too.

“Come on, there are no stairs in my car, and unlike April, I don’t like throwing people off,” he pouted, and reluctantly I nodded. I was just worried that now I will be getting dropped off by a guy. My brothers will lose their minds.

75435

Tasting 48

48–Meet My Brothers.

Nora:

We settled into his car, and despite my insistence that Natalya sit in the passenger seat, Brody wouldn’t allow it. He made me sit up front with him while Natalya took the backseat.

“Natalya, do you want me to pull over near the woods so that you can. shift and heal yourself?” Brody suggested, not giving it much thought. I turned slightly to see Natalya struggling to come up with an excuse.

“My wolf is a bit timid. She only emerged once, and that was when my life was in real danger,” she said in a gentle voice, fabricating a lie. I felt sorry for her.

She wasn’t lying for personal gain; she was simply trying to survive. And I had witnessed the brutality of others towards omegas tonight.

“Yeah, she just snapped that day.” I quickly added. “Leaving her in the woods might not be the best idea.” I nodded in agreement with my own suggestion and noticed Natalya exhale a sigh of relief. Since no one knew the whole truth, they didn’t catch onto those subtle cues from her, but I did, quite keenly.

“Oh, that’s peculiar. I’m an alpha, and trust me, I’ve never encountered or heard of a wolf behaving like that,” he remarked, once again. sounding harmless.

“You’d be surprised,” I commented cautiously, “I mean, mutations. happen every now and then, or new creatures are formed by the Moon Goddess,” I added, biting my tongue simultaneously.

11:25

Meet My brothers.

“Hmm! What about your wolf, Nora?” he questioned, and I held my breath.

“My wolf hasn’t awakened yet,” I answered, and as soon as he briefly turned to look at me, I turned my head to the other side, gazing out of the window.

“I mean, are you doing anything to help her emerge?” he persisted.

I didn’t want to delve into my wolf, so I began fidgeting with my fingers until a distracting topic came to mind.

“Natalya, have you given him the address to your building?” I turned entirely to her, successfully changing the subject.

“There won’t be any need. I’m actually familiar with this pack like the back of my hand,” he smiled, shaking his head as if silently calling me ‘stupid’.

“Oh! How’s that? I thought alphas grew up in their own packs,” I

noticed the smile fading from his lips momentarily before he shifted his mood again.

“I was sent to the boarding school here,” he answered, and then an awkward silence enveloped us as none of us had anything to add to his statement. For an alpha to be sent to another pack’s boarding school for training wasn’t an ideal characterization of someone’s character. But who was I to judge someone, right?

“Oh! You don’t have to take me home tonight,” this time, it was Natalya who spoke up.

“Really? Where do you plan to stay for the night then?” I was surprised, so I turned and faced towards the back.

“Your home,” she shrugged, smiling, while my heart sank in my chest.

11250

I bet Brody noticed something was odd because a friend wouldn’t react so indifferently to her friend inviting herself over to her home.

“Really? Oh my Goddess, wow!” I had to give a reaction because last time when I hesitated, Natalya seemed very upset.

“You seem so happy.” Natalya’s eyes shimmered as she watched me perform.

“I am.” I clapped my hands and then sat straight in the seat, looking the other way to drop the fake smile.

That would mean she would get to see the brothers mistreating me tonight.

The rest of the ride was spent in silence, but just as we neared the mansion, it started hailing.

“Oh! Shoot. I guess my plan to come here worked in our favor, or else you two would have been stuck in the mountains,” Natalya

commented, and for the first time since she announced her idea to come to my mansion, I genuinely liked it.

Brody parked the car in the underground parking spot to avoid damage. to his car while I got out to help Natalya slip out of the car.

“Thank you,” I lowered my body to speak with Brody, who nodded with a faint smile on his lips, “are you going to wait here?”

“Yeah, it’s no problem. I’ll wait for the hailing to stop and then I’ll be on my way,” he waved his hand to dismiss my worries, but it didn’t work.

I straightened my back and then bit my bottom lip, a bad habit of mine. I had a lot going on in my mind. I was afraid of Natalya finding the brothers mistreating me, so if I invited Brody inside, he would witness.

it all as well.

I filled my checks with air and then let it out at once, making up my mind.

Screw my reputation, I couldn’t be selfish enough to leave him here.

“Brody! Why don’t you come inside, and maybe I can make you some coffee?” I leaned over his window again and used a much softer tone. I didn’t mean to flirt with him, but he was kinda cute, and the way he was sitting with his hands still stretched out and his fingers tapping onto the steering wheel kind of made me a little shy.

“Umm-,” he looked at the staircase that would lead to the first floor of the mansion, and then after much thinking, he nodded his head.

“Okay, thanks for inviting me in,” he smiled and got out of the car. Natalya seemed to be doing pretty well hopping her way in, but we made sure to give her support.

As soon as we entered the mansion and were about to pass the living room, I realized that all four brothers were wide awake and doing some work assigned to them by their father. While Brody didn’t stop to look over at them, I noticed them.

The first one to raise his head and look almost like he had seen a ghost was none other than Ryker. His face said it all. He didn't look too pleased having strangers walk into their mansion. He stared at me and then at Brody and his jaw clenched,

76 BAT

Tasting 49

49—A Stranger In Their Mansion

Nora:

"Your mansion is so big," Natalya whispered into my ear as I escorted her up to my room. The moment they entered, I watched them look around to examine it.

"It's a pretty cozy room," Brody commented, and my cheeks turned red. I don't know why I was feeling so weird whenever he said something so simple.

"Ouch!" Natalya almost lost her balance, so Brody had to quickly offer his support by holding her arms.

"You alright?" he asked, his blue eyes examining her, but they lacked the compassion they usually held when he spoke to me.

"I'll be fine. I just need to use the restroom, may I?" she asked, and I gave her a nod

"Of course, you don't have to ask," I helped her to the bathroom, and once she was locked away, I turned to face Brody.

It was my first time having a guy from school in my bedroom. Oh, it felt odd. Brody's golden hair sparkled in the light from the window. behind him.

"Do you think your brothers wouldn't mind that I'm in your room and not in the guest room?" he asked, slipping his hands into his pockets.

"No! I'm an adult, I can decide for myself where my friends should be," as soon as that left my lips, I gulped and attempted to correct my

1126

mistake, "I mean—Natalya and y-,"

Well, I couldn't come up with an excuse.

"It's okay. In fact, I'm happy you're already considering me as your friend." he mused before he began to gaze outside the window.

“The view from here is so gorgeous. You must enjoy it around the area all the time.” he added.

“Yeah, whenever it rains.” I joined him before I remembered I hadn’t even asked him if he would like something.

“Coffee or tea?” I inquired.

“Coffee, but I feel weird making demands,” he added with a mild laugh that showed his white teeth shining like pearls. How was he an alpha and so sweet at the same time? I have seen my stepbrothers and they were not at all kind people. Their egos were always riding with them.

“I thought alphas liked ordering around,” that comment was targeted at my so-called stepbrothers, who had made it clear time and time again that they liked everyone respecting them and being on their toes. whenever they ordered them around.

“Not me, I don’t like being a nuisance. Just because I got a rank doesn’t mean I will make people do my bidding. I am assigned as an alpha to serve them, it is never the other way around,” he was so calm when talking that I swear I could listen to him all night long.

Which is why I felt the urge to get away from him before he found me checking him out.

“But I would love to make some coffee for you,” I said and started walking away when I heard Natalya yell from the bathroom.

1120

“Orange juice for me!”

Brody and I shared a glance before we silently laughed. I walked downstairs, thinking I would just make him a coffee, grab some snacks, and that would be all. What I didn’t know was that the brothers were now roaming around like angry beasts.

“Hey, you!” I heard someone call for me as if they were summoning a peasant.

I turned around and noticed Nash standing behind with a frown on his forehead. The others were right behind him too, standing next to the sofas where they were once sitting and doing their work.

“Why are there strangers in our mansion?” Nash questioned rudely, making me frown at him.

“I’m off to bed, I can’t deal with this shit,” Silas yawned, holding the files and casually leaving the discussion.

Cain shrugged and followed his brother's route, and soon he was out of the picture too.

"They are strangers to you, but I know them," I responded with a frown, and then without letting him add anything else to the conversation, I began to make my way to the kitchen.

However, I heard footsteps following me.

It was Nash again.

"What are you doing?" he stomped into the kitchen, his hands on his waist.

"I'm making coffee for my friends," I hissed, but soon Ryker appeared, and now the two stood in front of me with Ryker's hand stretched over

11260

Tasting 50

50—My Stepbrother Or A Murderer?

Nora:

"Mix it well," Brody chimed in as he watched me stir the mixture. He had one hand on the counter, his body hunched over, while I leaned back against the counter and smiled..

"We have a coffee maker," Nash, who had been lingering around for way too preparing baking goods just so he could stay in the kitchen and keep an eye on us, finally spoke up.

g, even

After Brody offered to help me make coffee, Ryker left the kitchen but made sure Nash intended to stay. Every time I raised my head, I would see Nash staring at us from any corner of the kitchen, observing us nonstop. It made me so uncomfortable.

"I prefer this method," I shut down Nash when I took Brody's side and smiled for him.

"Alpha Brody!" Finally, after ignoring each other for a while, Nash was the one who said his name.

It wasn't that I didn't notice Brody avoiding them too. Usually, any alphas would greet the alpha king's with respect, but not Brody. He didn't even want to acknowledge that he

was standing in the mansion and at the pack of the alpha king's brother whom he was avoiding.

Finally, after closing his eyes and taking a deep sigh, Brody turned to face Nash.

"Alpha Nash," the odd way he said his name and skipped the title 'King' made me raise my head and watch their encounter with much

112

50 My Stepbrother Dr Murderer?

more intent now.

"It won't be long until I get my Alpha King title. I'll send you an invitation for my crowning; you must come though," Nash smirked. After stressing over Brody and me making coffee for the past few minutes, he seemed relaxed now that he was directly speaking to Brody.

"Great. I will definitely come," Brody replied.

"Aw! That is sweet," Nash was such a bully. He looked so full of himself when trying to get under Brody's nerves.

"Of course, how can I miss an event where my best friend will be?" Brody said, turning to smile at me. My heart did a double flip.

I'm not saying I had a crush on him, but this had never happened before. No guy had been so nice to me, so an alpha so handsome giving me attention was really doing something to my poor innocent heart.

"She's your best friend now?" Nash placed his hands on his waist, "she's my sister, and I don't appreciate her meeting someone overnight and the guy acting like he knows her too well,"

His smile had finally faded now that Brody gave him the same annoying response like he was giving to Brody before.

"Ah! Well, don't worry, your sister is safe with me. I have a great reputation. It's not like I entered someone's pack and killed innocent people but got away because my dad is an alpha king," My heart skipped a beat at Brody's taunt.

The way Nash's body twitched also made it apparent that Brody was talking about Nash.

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30—My Stepbrother Or A Murderer?

“Maybe we shouldn’t talk about whatever happened,” Nash shrugged, and while Brody was about to say something, Nash got closer and smirked.

“After all, I can end your friendship with my sister in a click of my fingers.” he hissed, clenching his jaw.

“Hey, I think we should go check on Natalya,” I quickly intervened and stepped between them. The two were glaring into each other’s eyes as if they would eat each other alive.

“Let’s go, Brody.” I held his hand without noticing that it would make Nash glare at me and even be angry hours later. But in the moment, I just dragged Brody with me to the out. Once we were walking away with the mugs of coffee, I slowed down to speak to Brody.

“Are you okay? You seemed so angry there,” I uttered awkwardly.

“I’m sorry, I didn’t mean for you to see me argue with your brother,” he was so sweet, talking calmly and even admitting to his mistake. He was also considerate, and that was pretty adorable.

“It’s fine. He was asking for it,” I cleared my throat before I looked at his face again to ask him what the whole killing thing was about.

But before I could ask him anything, I watched him hunch over me and then smile.

“What?” I asked, feeling shy.

“You have this beautiful mole under your lip on the left side,” he whispered, his eyes staring at my lips.

“Oh! I—yeah,” I awkwardly looked away and bit my bottom lip, right where the mole was.

a deep breath. Did he

plan to kill me with his compliments?

“Why don’t you dip it in coffee and eat it then?” We both stepped away at the comment from Ryker, who was sitting on the couch in the living room, doing nothing but playing with the lamp on the side, turning it off and on.

Brody rolled his eyes and then shook his head.

“You come into our mansion and you don’t even greet us? Brody! Friends don’t do that to each other,” Ryker’s comment went over my head.

“Let’s go, Brody, Natalya is waiting for us,” I passed Ryker a very stern glare before walking away with Brody following me.

It’s not like I forgot about what Ryker did when I told him his brother almost stripped me n*ked. But I was over that thing now. I was in a very good mood. I made a good friend tonight, and that was all I wanted to focus on for now. I took Brody to my bedroom, and to my surprise, Natalya was standing beside my closet with a white sweater in her hand.

“I’m so sorry, I was cold so I checked your closet without waiting for you,” she pouted sadly, making me return her a smile.

“It’s okay. You can wear this,” I said, “it’s not like I’m going to strip you na*ked because of it.”

That comment left my lips before I realized, and soon they were just staring at me in confusion.

“I’m joking,” I uttered with a weak smile, but it made me realize that I was nowhere over that incident.

11:26

I needed to get back at Silas somehow or else I would lose my mind being angry about it.

“Why don’t you sit down? I will go bring some snacks.” I let out

laugh and as soon as I stepped out of the room. I spotted Nash wandering across the hallway, almost like he was spying on me I shut

the door instantly and sighed, dropping the idea of getting snacks But why were my brothers so bothered at the idea of me having a guy in r bedroom?