

The Party

## The Party

### CHAPTER 10

Charlotte crossed her legs and threw her back against the car seat. She might not know who the chauffeur was or where they were headed but she could tell that she was in for a luxurious ride.

Anabel and the other girls couldn't stop giggling. They would kill for such kinds of rides and couldn't wait to reach their unknown destination.

All through the five minutes ride, the birthday girl couldn't stop roving her eyes inside the vehicle.

"We are here!" The driver announced after pulling the car to a halt. He turned down the reflectors.

Charlotte stuck out her head and the corners of her mouth were instantly stretched with excitement. 1

### TOWNSEND HALL!

Everyone in the city knows Townsend Hall as the hall to die for. The spacious building has hosted different calibers of men ranging from politicians, business moguls, and celebrities who used it for their occasions.

Charlotte was pleased and with a bright smile, she jumped out of the vehicle and was soon surrounded by her friends.

Anabel placed a hand on her shoulder. "What other surprise do you have in store for us?"

Charlotte turned to her with a look that says 'Are you kidding me

## The Party

"Well, you guys were there when the diver showed up and asked me to hop in and speak about surprises, I didn't know I was going to end up celebrating my day at Townsend."

She flipped her hair and charged toward the entrance while her friends hurried after her like sheep being led to the slaughter. 2

When Charlotte stepped into the hall, it was dark and she could barely see a thing.

"Hello! Anybody here?"

In a flash, the lights came on and her eyes widened in amazement.

"What the hell?" She muttered under her breath and turned to look at her friends who were bearing the same shocked expression she had.

"Happy birthday!" The crowd screamed as they began to come to the limelight.

Charlotte couldn't hide her excitement. There were colorful linens and balloons tied around slender poles. She lifted her head and caught a glimpse of the disco ball whose lights were reflecting on the floor. The disc jockey swung into action and so did the waitresses. The once-dark room was instantly transformed into a party scene and Charlotte couldn't be more pleased.

Anabel and the girls were already lost in the crowd. Charlotte realized that all the people she had been expecting to turn up at her place that night were at Townsend.

She smiled and folded her arms across her chest when she saw her boyfriend taking strides toward her with a bouquet of roses. He walked

## The Party

up to her, grabbed her hand, and led her to the center of the room where all eyes could fall on her.

"It beats me that I couldn't deduce from the start that this was all your doing," Charlotte remarked after giving her boyfriend a soft punch in the chest.

He flashed a quick smile and presented the bouquet to her. "I bet you were waiting for me and the guys to show up at your place. "

She took the bouquet with a warm smile and pressed it to her chest. "If only I knew that you were cooking something better than what I planned."

He smiled and took her into his arms. "Your boyfriend is the captain, he's rich and so, his girl deserves the best treat on her birthday."

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Nathan threw his head backward and didn't take his eyes off the door. It's been two hours past the scheduled time for his birthday party yet no living thing showed up.

A few hours earlier, he had invited his nosy neighbors to turn up at his apartment for his eighteenth birthday party but none of them came.

It was a few minutes past 9 pm.

Nathan sat up and began to rub his palms against each other vigorously.

Where did everyone go? He wondered as he paid attention to the silence that had enveloped the compound.

He stood up and strode to his door. He had left it wide open but no one

### The Party

walked in through the door. With his arms folded across his chest, he turned to stare at the large glass table, stationed in the center of his room, carrying different brands of expensive drinks.

He made provision for pizza and some hot dogs which were delivered an hour ago and the restaurant downtown was on standby. He told them that he was going to ring them the moment his guest shows up so they could place orders.

Nathan tucked both his hands inside his pocket and rested his back against the wall. He continued to ponder.

Were they all stunned by the sudden wealth that they decided to ditch him?

He pulled out his newly acquired iPhone and decided to take solace by checking the status update of the people on his timeline. Perhaps, it will ease his restlessness.

Nathan's eyes widened when he observed that the students on his timeline were updating at the same time.

The hashtag was #Charlottes18thBirthday, and #TownsendIsOpenToAllTonight.

It then dawned on Nathan that it was also Charlotte's birthday that night. He placed his phone on the table and rushed to his room to grab the gift he bought for her.

Nathan stared at the neatly wrapped gift with a smile. Thank goodness he went through his phone else he wouldn't have gotten the chance to give Charlotte the bag.

He was now certain that his neighbors were at Townsend because the

### The Party

updates he saw proved that there were no restrictions to the hall that night.

He grabbed his jacket and wore it.

Nathan then got to the living room and grabbed his keys. He shut his door and ran to the streets where he'll get a cab to Townsend. Since the VIP restriction on the hall was taken off tonight, Nathan concluded that he wasn't going to have any trouble getting in.

Nathan's assumption turned out to be right. The bouncers at the entrance moved away when they saw him and a group of other guys who were rushing to get into the crowded hall.

Nathan gave repeated nods and stepped into the hall. The moment he walked into crowded the hall, his eyes fell on Anabel.

"Shit!" he lamented with a tightened jaw.

Anabel dumped her glass on the waiter's round tray and gave an impish grin. She began taking steps toward him. Nathan tightened his grip around the gift he was hugging.

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