# Wild Night 71

Chapter 71 - Acting Up

"So, how was work today?" Tom asked Lucy as he drove them home later that evening.

"It was okay," Lucy said with a shrug as she looked outside the car's window.

"Did you eventually meet the CEO today?" Tom asked, turning to spare her a glance, but her face was turned away from him, so he couldn't see it.

She had been so eager to talk to him about what she thought of the CEO earlier, but right now she didn't see any reason to do that, "Yes, I did."

"And what do you think about him now that you have met him?" Tom asked curiously.

"I don't think anything," Lucy said dourly.

"Nothing at all?" Tom asked, sounding slightly surprised.

"Yeah."

"Are you okay?" Tom asked in a concerned tone, wondering why it seemed like he was forcing herself to talk to him. Did he do something wrong? Was she angry with him? Could it possibly be because he had failed to show up for lunch as they agreed?

"Shouldn't I be okay?" Lucy asked, turning to look at him with a slightly raised brow.

Even she was wondering what was wrong with her. She had been in a good mood when she left her office some minutes ago, but her mood seemed to have suddenly plummeted once she got into the car with Tom.

"Are you sure? Did someone piss you off? Did the CEO or Mr. Harry say something that made you unhappy?" Tom asked again.

"I said I'm FINE!" Lucy snapped at him irritably. And then took in a deep breath when she realized she had just overreacted, "I'm fine," Lucy repeated more calmly, and Tom gave her a nod even though he didn't exactly believe her.

They both remained quiet during the rest of the drive home and once he drove into the driveway and parked the car Lucy turned to look at him, "I heard you had lunch with a lady... Was it the lady?"

Anita? How was he supposed to answer that question? He reasoned it would be best to say Anita was the one since it was highly unlikely that Lucy had seen Anita. Using Anita as his love interest would better serve his purpose than using a random stranger, since neither he nor Anita was interested in each other, and Anita didn't work directly in the company.

"Yes," Tom said, and Lucy gave him a nod before getting out of the car.

Lucy disappeared into her apartment before Tom get out of the car. Once she got inside she walked straight to her bedroom, took a hairband, and twisted her hair into a ponytail before walking into the bathroom to wash her hands so she could take off her contact lens.

Why was she so upset? Lucy asked herself as she took off her clothes. Once she had stripped down to her undies, she lay on her bed with the pillow under her head and decided to take a walk through

everything that had happened in the office to find out what was upsetting her. By the time she was done, she had a big frown of disapproval on her face.

'How can I be upset because he failed to show up for lunch, but chose to have lunch with his love interest instead?' She asked herself in disbelief. This wasn't logical. It didn't even make any sense. She had no right to be upset about something like that, especially not when she had wanted to call off the lunch in the first place. It was just her stupid ego that was bruised.

Anita was not only very beautiful but she had also sounded intelligent, so she could understand why someone like Tom would have a thing for her. Since Anita was the person Tom wanted, she was going to try her best to help him get her.

She sat upright when she heard her doorbell. Wondering what he wanted this time, she quickly pulled out a short Mickey mouse dress and wore it over her head before taking her glasses from the dressing table. She checked her reflection in the mirror before walking out of the room.

"Yes?" She asked when she opened the door and saw Tom standing there holding the wineglass and plate he had taken with him the previous evening. He was still dressed as he had been dressed earlier. What? Did he want to continue from where he stopped the previous evening?

"Here, I came to return these," Tom said handing them to her while looking at her and trying to guess what was wrong with her.

"Thank you," Lucy said as she reached out to take the glass and plate from him, but Tom pulled his hands back.

"Why does it look like you don't want me inside your house? Am I not welcome?" Tom asked, looking at her curiously, wondering why she was blocking the entrance. Although he had no intention of going into her house since he was on his way to his real home, he didn't like that she was acting this way, and he needed to clear it up before leaving.

She gave him a stiff smile, "What do you mean by that? Of course, you're always welcome, I'm just very busy right now. So I can't do company right now," Lucy explained without meeting his gaze.

The last thing she wanted was to let him inside her house after the stunt he had pulled the previous evening. He definitely didn't think he could flirt with her in the evening, have lunch with his love interest during the day, and then return to flirt again at night, or did he?

"Are you mad at me over something?" Tom asked, making her blink at him before she looked away.

"Mad? Why should I be mad at you? I'm just very busy at the moment," Lucy lied.

"With what?" Tom asked, raising a brow.

"Work. The CEO gave me an assignment I need to finish before tomorrow, so I'm going to spend the evening doing it," Lucy lied, confirming Tom's suspicion that she was probably angry with him since he knew Harry hadn't given her any assignment.

What other CEO was she referring to? If indeed she was upset, what was she so angry about to make her lie just to avoid having him in her apartment? Was it because he had lunch with someone else and not her? It couldn't be that either, since he knew she didn't care about him. Or maybe she

wasn't angry with him? Perhaps she was just in need of space? If that was the case why couldn't she just say that?

"Alright then. I was on my way out but decided to return these first. I will be back in the morning," Tom said as he let her have the plate and glass.

Hearing that he won't be spending the night in his apartment, Lucy felt something uncomfortable in her chest, and the pit of her belly, "Where are you going to?" She asked reluctantly after taking the glass and plate from him. Even though he made her uncomfortable, he was the only 'friend' she had in the city for the time being, and she felt safe knowing he was next door.

"Work. I have to spend the night doing some plumbing and fixing some other stuff," Tom said before turning around to leave.

"Wait," Lucy called out, making Tom stop. A minute ago she had seemed like she couldn't wait for him to leave, and now that he was leaving she was acting like she didn't want him to leave. What was going on?

Tom turned around to give her a questioning look, but she walked inside the house and came out a moment later with her phone, "Can... Can I have your number?" She asked, making the corner of his lips tug.

"Are you asking for my number now, after refusing to give me yours the other day?" He asked with a flirty smile, cocking his head to one side as he looked at her.

"We weren't friends then. Friends should have each other's number, that way you can easily reach me when you're unavailable."

"Are you sure it's not because you're already missing me?" Tom asked with a teasing smile.

"Why would I miss you? I just thought maybe if you had my number today you would have called to tell me you can't have lunch with me, instead of sending someone," Lucy said, making Tom's brow arch.

"So that was the reason you were upset?" Tom asked, narrowing his eyes at her as he returned to stand in front of her.

"I was not upset," Lucy denied.

"Yes, you were. I know for a fact that you were upset. I was just going to leave quietly earlier, but now I want you to tell me what bee got into your bonnet," Tom said as he leaned forward so their eyes would be on the same level.

"Forget about the phone number if you're going to act this way. You can leave," Lucy said, turning around to get inside the house but Tom placed his arm around her waist and pulled her back. She gasped in surprise at the sudden pull and placed her left hand on his chest to keep her balance, while she held on to her phone with her right hand.

"What do you think you are doing?" She asked breathlessly as color rose on her face, "Let me go," she said, trying to wriggle free, but he didn't budge.

"I will release you once you tell me why you're acting up and..." His words trailed off and his lips curved in a smile when something else occurred to him. Was it possible that she was stopping him from entering her house because of what he told her the previous evening?

Tom raised his left hand to her face and placed a finger under her chin so she would meet his gaze, "Why were you upset?"

Lucy gulped nervously at the closeness. With every breath she drew, she inhaled his scent, and it made her want to lean closer into him, "I wasn't upset," she said as she turned her face away from him. FiNd updates on n(o)/velbin(.)com

"Okay. Why don't you want me inside your house?" Tom asked instead.

"I never said I didn't want you inside my house," Lucy pointed out defensively as she tried to free herself from him.

"Is that right? Let's go inside then," Tom said with a suggestive smile as he let go of her waist.

"I thought you were going somewhere?" Lucy asked, nervously.

"I should spend some time with you before I leave," Tom said, jerking his head towards the door for her to get in.

Reasoning that the sooner she let him into the house, the sooner he would leave, Lucy walked inside and held out the door for him to go in.

Tom took a step forward, and stopped in front of her, "Thanks. I just wanted to be sure we were on the same page. I will leave now," Tom said with a wink.

Before she could guess what he snatched her phone from her and input his number. He dialed his line with it, and once his phone rang out he hung up and returned her phone to her, "That's it, save my number."

While Lucy was trying to save his number, he leaned forward and brushed his lips on her cheek before stepping back, "Don't forget to think about all I told you yesterday, Lu.. Have a lovely evening," he said with a wave before he walking away, leaving a red-faced Lucy staring after him in surprise.

### Chapter 72 - I Will Do It

Immediately Tom left, Lucy shut the door and walked over to the couch where she collapsed. She lay there with her eyes closed as she thought of Tom. What was she going to do about him? Perhaps she should do as Lucas had suggested? Maybe if she were to have sex with him and let him become her first lover he would stop hounding her this way? Lucy sighed and sat up after a while.

She was startled when she heard the doorbell ring again and stood up almost immediately. Was he back? Did he leave something? Or did he want to continue with her from where he stopped? She asked herself as she slowly walked over to the door to see who was standing there. She opened the door, and much to her surprise it was Jasmine.

"Hi!" Jasmine greeted with a cheerful smile, while Lucy stared at her blankly wondering why she was standing in front of her door. Reêad latest <code>nove</code>ls at noov/e/l/bi<code>n(.)</code>com

"His apartment is the next one, and he is not home," Lucy said, assuming Jasmine was there to see Tom.

"I'm aware. But I'm not here for Tom. You're the one I came to see," Jasmine said with a polite smile, making Lucy raise a brow in surprise as she stepped away from the door for Jasmine to get inside.

"Thanks," Jasmine said with a soft smile as she stepped inside the house. She took off her sneakers by the door and looked around the house before walking further inside to sit on the couch.

"Do you care for anything?" Lucy asked politely.

"A glass of water will do. Thanks," Jasmine said with a polite smile, and Lucy nodded as she walked over to the kitchen to get her a glass of water. She stepped out a moment later with the glass and handed it to Jasmine.

"Thank you," Jasmine said with a polite smile as she sipped from the glass, "I know you must be wondering why I came to see you," Jasmine started after Lucy had sat down.

"Yes, I am."

"I saw you and your driver earlier... I mean before he left," Jasmine said, making Lucy's heart skip a beat.

She had seen them? How much did she see? The last thing she wanted was a rumor going around that she was having an affair with her driver, "It's not what you think. That wasn't anything. He just likes to play around that way at times," Lucy said, and Jasmine smiled.

"What I saw wasn't a man playing around. It looks like something is going on between you two, or maybe something happened... Don't worry, I'm not here to judge or gossip. I just... I... We need your help," Jasmine said with a nervous smile on her face now.

"My help? What for? Who is the WE?" Lucy wondered with a crease on her brow, as she adjusted her glasses on her nose.

"I and my wife, Alicia," Jasmine explained, making realization dawn on Lucy.

Jasmine was a lesbian? The other girl with her a few days ago was her wife? If that was the case, why were they flirting with Tom? Did they want a threesome? Why was she here to talk to her? What help did lesbians need from her?

"We want to start a family. Alicia has refused to have kids since we got married three years ago. She was looking for a suitable father material... And the first day we saw Tom, she decided that she wanted him to be the father of our child..." Jasmine said, making Lucy gasp in surprise.

"You want him to donate his sperm?" She asked in disbelief, making Jasmine wince.

"I know it sounds absurd, considering the fact that we just met, and we are not even close to him. We haven't told him yet. We want to establish a friendship with him before raising the subject. So when we saw the both of you earlier, Alicia decided that we get your consent first, since you are in a kind of relationship with him..."

"I'm not," Lucy denied. She didn't want them to get the wrong idea. Tom was just her neighbor and her driver, nothing more, and nothing less.

Jasmine nodded her head, "That means you don't care about how we go about it? Even if Alicia seduces him? He doesn't have to know," Jasmine said, making Lucy frown.

"Didn't you just say you wanted to get close to him before telling him what you want? Why are you now saying he doesn't have to know?" Lucy asked with a frown.

"We might have no reason to tell him since you're not in a relationship with him. We just wanted to make sure he was single," Jasmine explained, "Can you not tell him we had this conversation?"

"I can't promise you anything. But I think you should ask him and if he is willing he will give it to you. And if he isn't, you can find someone else," Lucy said matter of factly.

Jasmine gave Lucy a nod as she dropped the glass on the table and stood up, "Thanks for your time."

Lucy saw her off to the door, and after she left Lucy picked up her phone to give Sonia a call. She needed to at least find out if Sonia had been able to find out anything about her boss, and also tell her what she had found out about her boss, and also about the recent development in her relationship with Tom.

Meanwhile, in Bryan's apartment, he had a scowl on his face during dinner as he listened to Matt and Sonia converse like they have been best friends forever. If he heard one more 'Did you know that Sonia...' from Matt, he was going to kill the traitor and kill himself.

"You don't seem to be in a very good mood, what's the problem?" Sonia asked with a concerned smile as she ate.

"He is fine. Just grumpy. Bryan hates it when he doesn't have his way," Matt told Sonia with a grin, and she smiled.

"Oh! I see," Sonia said with a smile. She glanced at her phone when it vibrated with a text message notification and picked it up when she saw that it was from Lucy, "Hey! Can you talk right now?"

"Excuse me for a moment, I need to make a call," Sonia said as she stood up from the dining and walked away with her phone.

"What is WRONG with you?" Bryan snapped at Matt the moment Sonia disappeared.

"What do you mean?" Matt asked with a grin.

"I called you here to get rid of her, not become her best friend!" Bryan said through gritted teeth, his eyes flashing angrily as he glared at Matt.

"Relax. All this is part of my plan to make her fall for me. She already guessed the reason I came over, so I'm trying to play a different role," Matt explained.

"You are?" Bryan asked surprised, "But wait, how did she know why you are here?" Bryan asked curiously.

"She is way smarter than you give her credit for. Just quit scowling at her all day long, and start acting more like Bryan Hank! You're an actor, play the fucking role!" Matt muttered under his breath.

Meanwhile, inside the bedroom, Sonia lay on the bed as she dialed Lucy's line, "Hey baby! Why didn't you just call?" Sonia asked immediately Lucy received the call.

"I thought you would be writing, or busy with Bryan, and I didn't want to interrupt," Lucy explained.

"I keep telling you, I'm ALWAYS available to you. Even if I'm having sex, I would slide that dick out of me to take your call, don't you get it?" Sonia asked, making Lucy giggle.

"I love you too. How are you?" Lucy asked changing the subject.

"I'm alright. I was just in the middle of dinner with Bryan and his best friend. What about you? How are you?" Sonia asked curiously.

"I'm okay. I wanted to find out if you've learned anything about my boss," Lucy said making Sonia sigh.

"Not yet. But Matt says he is very handsome and nice," Sonia assured Lucy.

"Well, I don't think so. He was at the office today, and he was very weird," Lucy said, before going on to give Sonia the details.

"You only feel this way because he is your boss. Anyway, how is Tom?" Sonia asked curiously.

"That is the second reason I called. He's acting weird," Lucy complained.

"How come everyone is acting weird around you? What did he do?" Sonia asked, and listened as Lucy narrated everything to her.

"Wait! Do you mean he didn't do it that night? But you thought he did?" Sonia asked in disbelief, making Lucy wince in embarrassment.

"Yes," Lucy said, as she went on to explain the situation.

Sonia burst into a fit of laughter before Lucy could finish, "I really don't know what to think of that guy. I like him, and at the same time I don't like him because he likes someone else and wants you to help him get her," Sonia said with a sigh.

"What should I do? Do you think maybe I should let him do it? So that we can get over it?" Lucy asked, making Sonia smile.

"You know very well what I'm going to say. So go for it," Sonia said happily, "It's best you do it with him now that he isn't dating anyone yet," Sonia added.

"You are right.. I will do it," Lucy said with determination.

Chapter 73 - Very Uncomfortable

"Seriously? You mean your brother is interested in Sonia's best friend?" Matt asked in a whisper as they continued eating while Sonia was in the room talking to Lucy.

"Yeah. So I need you to help me find out all you can about her best friend," Bryan said, and Matt grinned.

"Are you sure you can get rid of Sonia? From the way I see it, if your brother ends up getting married to her best friend, you might have to see her every time you show up at your brother's place," Matt said with a cheerful smile as though he was already looking forward to it.

"That doesn't change anything. Stick to the plan and get her out of here within a week. You can still do that, right?" Bryan asked with a slightly raised brow.

"A week? What's the hurry?"

"I just don't want her around me," Bryan said with a shrug.

"I wasn't going to say anything, but maybe I should. Why do you seem so worked up over her?" Matt asked, watching Bryan closely.

"I don't know. She just makes me very..." He paused as though he was searching for the right word, "She makes me very uncomfortable," Bryan said, choosing to make do with uncomfortable.

"Uncomfortable? How?" Matt asked with a slightly raised brow.

"I wish I knew."

"Are you sure it's not because you find her interesting, and you're scared you might fall for her charms? Maybe you're just scared you might end up falling for her," Matt said thoughtfully.

The Bryan he knew would have no reservations about playing along with Sonia until they both get tired and went their separate ways, so why was he putting in so much effort into trying to have her leave?

"Shut up if you have nothing better to say. Quit saying shit," Bryan growled at him.

"Are you sure it's shit? Because if you're being honest with yourself right now you'd agree with me that you are not acting as you ordinarily would act if she was someone else," Matt pointed out.

"And how do you think I would have acted if it was someone else? Go on, tell me," Bryan said, looking at him with a slightly raised brow.

"We both know if you really didn't want her around you, you would have called off the whole engagement thing by now. You're not someone that cares so much about what the public thinks. You've been in and out of a lot of sexual and relationship scandals. And if you really proposed to her just to clear up the scandal concerning Sophia, you would have cleared this up already," Matt explained.

He raised a finger when Bryan opened his mouth to speak, "Hold on, I'm not done yet. What is the worse she can do if you call off the engagement? Tell the world that you both didn't know each other before? What is the best you can do? Refuse to give any comment and tell the public that you'd like your private business to stay private. It would take a week or two, and you would be done with all of that. Another celebrity would do something scandalous and attention will shift from you. Now think about it, am I right or wrong when I say you're acting out of character?" Matt asked, making Bryan frown.

"..." Before he could respond, they heard Sonia's voice.

"So what did you both talk about in my absence?" Sonia asked with a teasing smile as she returned to join them at the table.

"I was just telling Bryan here, how lucky he is to have a beautiful and intelligent woman like you," Matt said with a grin, making Sonia raise both hands to her cheeks as though she was blushing.

"Aww, I'm blushing. That's so sweet of you. I'm glad I have you on my side," Sonia said, while Bryan just kept looking at them both with a blank expression as he processed what Matt had said. Was it really as easy as Matt had made it sound? Was he really just stalling when he can easily just tell her it's over?

"So tell me something, do you have a friend or sister that you can hook me up with?" Matt asked with a playful smile and winked at Bryan who quickly took the cue.

"Yes, she does. Or is your best friend in a relationship?" Bryan asked, looking at her and trying not to sound too curious about her best friend.

"I would have loved to hook you up with her. But unfortunately, Lucy isn't interested in guys, so I don't think it will work," Sonia said with an apologetic smile which made Bryan narrow his eyes. She wasn't interested in guys? Did that mean she was into girls? Bryan wondered.

"She is into girls?" Matt asked, voicing the question on Bryan's mind, which made Sonia laugh out loud.

"No, she isn't. Maybe if she was into girls I would be married to her by now," Sonia said with an amused smile.

"What about you? Are you into girls?" Bryan asked suspiciously since he had noticed the way she had checked the strippers out at the club the previous evening.

"I don't think I will be engaged to you if I was into girls. But you could say I'm bisexual though. I've been with one or two girls before," Sonia said with a wink making Bryan scoff even though he was actually feeling intrigued to know more about Sonia.

"You're joking, right?" Matt asked in disbelief. FiNd *u*pd*a*tes on n(*o*)/v*e*l*bi*n(.)c*o*m

"I'm not. Anyway, I was just trying to say Lucy is not into the whole relationship stuff," Sonia said with a shrug.

"Why not? Did someone break her heart? If she did, then you should hook us up. Bryan tell her my nickname," Matt said to Bryan who chuckled.

"He's the heart mender," Bryan said with a small smile. Of course, there was no way he was going to allow Matt to go anywhere close to Lucy, and Matt knew it. He just needed Matt to keep asking Sonia questions about Lucy. That way Sonia wouldn't suspect anything.

"You heard that, right? I mend broken hearts," Matt told Sonia.

"Well, I don't think you can mend this heart. It is more complicated than that. And she prefers to be alone," Sonia said before turning to look at Bryan. "So what about your siblings?" Sonia asked, trying to change the subject from her friend.

"They're okay. My brother is busy running his company, while my sister is busy being a lawyer," Bryan answered, wanting to give her the answer he knew she wanted.

"That's so nice. So what is your brother like? Is he anything like you?" Sonia asked again, grateful that he was being more responsive now than he had been earlier that morning.

"Nah! He is completely different from Bryan. He is the gentle version, and he is more handsome too," Matt said, making Bryan raise a brow.

"He isn't more handsome than I am," Bryan hissed at him.

"You have always been jealous of your brother's looks, admit it," Matt said with a chuckle making Bryan throw a piece of steak at him.

"Shut up," Bryan hissed at Matt, making Sonia giggle. That meant Tom was very handsome just as Matt had told her before.

"I bet he has a better personality too," Sonia said, wanting to get more information.

"He is boring. He prefers to keep to himself. And I don't think he is very good with ladies either, or has he changed?" Matt asked Bryan who shook his head.

"No, he hasn't. You know he lives like a hermit. He still doesn't like people looking at him or coming too close to him," Bryan said, while Sonia nodded her head as she digested the information.

"Why? Did something happen to make him that way?" Sonia asked thoughtfully.

"I don't think so. He has always been that way since we were all young. I can't even remember him playing games with us more than twice when we were young. He was always in his bedroom busy with his book or his computer. It's no wonder he is so successful today," Matt said, and Bryan nodded his head in agreement.

"So you mean he is not married or involved with any lady at the moment?" Sonia asked, trying not to sound too into the subject even though both Matt and Bryan could tell she was very much interested.

"He isn't. He would settle down when he meets the right person. By the way, what about your best friend, where does she live? Do you think maybe we can hook her up with my brother? I think they might be good for each other," Bryan suggested, making Sonia choke on the water she had just started drinking.

"What?" She asked, looking at him in surprise, while Bryan and Matt stifled the urge to laugh.

"I was just kidding," Bryan said with a smirk as he pushed away his chair from the table and stood up, "I will do the dishes since you both fixed dinner," Bryan said as he started stacking up the dishes.

"I will assist you," Matt offered as he stood up to join Bryan.

"What do you think you are doing?" Bryan asked forty-five minutes later when he walked into his bedroom after he was done doing the dishes with Matt, and saw Sonia seated in front of his closet drawers, folding his briefs into a different drawer, while her luggage box lay open on the floor next to her.

## Chapter 74 - Deal

Bryan lay on one end of his bed facing the ceiling, while Sonia lay on the other end facing the wall as she slept comfortably. Bryan turned in her direction when he heard the soft snores coming from her direction. She was really asleep? How could she barge into his life and his bedroom this way? Earlier on she had rearranged his closet and drawers so she could make space for her stuff.

After trying to sleep to no avail, he got out of bed and picked up a hoodie sweater which he wore over his t-shirt and joggers before walking out of the bedroom. Although the house was dark, save for the beam of light coming in through the patio door from the back, he didn't bother to turn on any light as he made his way to the bar to pour himself a glass of wine before opening the patio door and heading to the poolside.

He needed to think about what Matt had said earlier. Maybe he wasn't dealing with the situation as he should. He tried to imagine someone else in this same situation. What would he have advised the person to do? He knew Sonia was crazy, and as such he couldn't handle things like Matt had said. He didn't know just what Sonia would do if he outrightly announced that he was done with her. Although he wasn't one to care about his reputation very much, he also wasn't one to make rash decisions by underestimating Sonia's craziness.

"I was looking for you," Sonia spoke from behind him, startling him since he had been deep in thought and hadn't realized that someone was out there with him.

"Why? I thought you were fast asleep?" Bryan asked without turning to look at her.

"I woke up to ease myself, and when I didn't find you beside me, I decided to look for you," Sonia said as she took the empty seat beside him. She shivered a little because the night air was cold, and she wasn't wearing a robe over the skimpy nightgown she was wearing.

"You can return inside. I'll be out here for a while," Bryan told her as he raised the wineglass to his lips and took a sip before dropping it on the table next to him.

Sonia said nothing as she lay back on the chair beside him, "Why are you out here alone? Is something bothering you?" Sonia asked after some time.

"I left my problem inside, but it followed me out," Bryan said dryly, making Sonia scowl at him.

"Tell me something, am I not your type?" Sonia asked, sitting up so she could have a better look at him, "I know you womanize a lot, so I'm wondering why you don't seem to have any interest in me," Sonia said thoughtfully.

Bryan sighed wearily, "If you were me, would you get involved with you?" Bryan asked, and Sonia giggle unexpectedly.

"I would. And I would count myself very lucky to be involved with someone like me," Sonia said with a grin, making Bryan's lips twitch in amusement. It was clear she thought very highly of herself.

"Earlier when you said you have been with girls before, did you mean it?" Bryan asked curiously.

"Yes. Once when I was in high school, and another time in college," Sonia said with a wide smile. NewW **n**ovels upd**a**tes on nov/**e**l/b(i)**n**(.)com

"And you haven't tried it since college?" Bryan asked, and Sonia shook her head, "Why? Bad experience?" Bryan asked as he sipped from his glass.

"Let's just say I realized that in as much as I like boobs, I don't want to suck someone else's pussy. So I'd say I'm more into guys than I am into girls," Sonia said, making Bryan stifle the urge to chuckle.

He couldn't imagine giving any guy a blowjob. The thought of it alone made him want to puke. Although he didn't want to like her, he couldn't deny that he liked how she easily expresses herself.

"Why did you propose to me that night?" She asked after a while, making Bryan glance at her.

Why was she asking that all of a sudden? Bryan mused, before choosing to answer her question honestly, "There was a scandal concerning me and a younger actress. It was affecting her and I wanted to cover it up with something else so she would stop bothering me with her tears," Bryan answered truthfully.

Sonia nodded her head since she had figured that out already from the beginning. She had only asked to see if he would be honest about it, and she was grateful he answered truthfully, "I see."

"Why did you accept? If you had simply said no like any normal person would have done, it would have also served the purpose of covering up the scandal," Bryan said, making the corners of her lips curve upward.

"Unfortunately I'm not normal. And double unfortunately, I like you. I've had a crush on you for a long time, and I figured this was my chance to get close to you," Sonia answered, taking him back.

"You have a crush on me?" Bryan asked in surprise.

"Why do you sound so surprised?" Sonia asked in amusement as she shivered again, "You are Bryan Hank, and I'm sure half the ladies in the country must have dreamt of you at one point or the other," Sonia added as she rubbed her arms which were now covered in goose pimples.

"You should go inside, you're cold," Bryan suggested when he noticed the way she was rubbing her arms.

"How about we strike a deal?" Sonia asked ignoring what he had just said.

"A deal? What sort of deal?" Bryan asked as he took off his sweater and handed it to her. He couldn't afford for her to get sick because she was being stubborn.

Sonia raised a brow as she took the sweater which was still warm from him. She hadn't been expecting such a thoughtful gesture from him so she smiled as she said "Thank you," and then slipped it over her head, while Bryan sipped his wine as he waited for her to finish and answer him.

"The more you try to get rid of me, the more I will stick to you. So why not let me have my way for a year, and then after that if you still want me to leave I will disappear from your life?" Sonia asked, surprising Bryan who almost choked on his wine.

"A year?" He asked in a choked voice.

"Yes. A year. Within that year I will let you do anything you want. We can tell everyone we are in an open relationship," Sonia suggested.

He knew it! He knew she was crazy. Only a crazy person would come up with an idea like this. Only Sonia would. "Why would I want to do something like that?" Bryan asked incredulously.

"Because I can assure you that you and your best friend are wasting your time with whatever plan you try to come up with to get rid of me. Even if you decide to announce to the world that the

engagement was a hoax, I won't let you be. So you have to do it my way. That is the only way you can be free of me," Sonia said with a shrug.

Bryan sighed. What kind of a problem did he get himself into? Who was this lady? What did she want from him? "A year is too much," Bryan said after a while.

"Okay. Let's make it six months then. I would have gotten everything I want from you by then," Sonia said, making Bryan narrow his eyes suspiciously.

"Everything you want from me? What do you want from me? Just tell me and I will give it to you so you can leave," Bryan pleaded.

"It's not that easy. Most importantly, I'm working on my next bestseller, and it is about our situation," Sonia said in a confidential whisper.

"I don't think any of this is a good idea for a story," Bryan said with a shake of his head.

"I'm the writer here. Allow me to decide that. I'm sure this particular story will be adapted as a movie, and when that time comes, I will make sure you get the lead role," Sonia promised.

Bryan thought about it for a moment, "Six months and you will disappear?" Bryan asked doubtfully.

"Yes. Just allow me be your fiancee for six months," Sonia repeated with a nod, "Don't forget that it would make more sense for us to break up after some months, rather than a week after our engagement. Also I will break up with you myself," Sonia added.

"What do you stand to gain from being my fiancee for six months?" Bryan asked, wondering if she wanted to get money from him.

As if she could read his mind, she said, "You don't have to give me any money within this period. Just treat me as you would a fiancee. Only difference is it will be an open relationship, so you don't have to be faithful to me," Sonia added.

"Six months?" Bryan asked again.

"Just six months. We could put it down in words," Sonia suggested. She had spent most part of the afternoon writing and plotting, and she had come to the conclusion that it would probably work best for the both of them this way.

"And you would live under my roof within this time?" Bryan asked, and Sonia nodded.

"If I finish the story before then, I might not have to stay for that long. But yes, I will live with you for this period. So? Deal?" She asked, extending a hand to him for a handshake.

Bryan thought about it for a moment, although he would have preferred to have her out of his life within a week, or at most a month, but he knew she was right. He wouldn't be able to shake her off if she wasn't willing to leave on her volition. Six months? He wouldn't always be here within those six months anyway. He would travel to shoot movies, and do other stuff that his career required, and before he knows it six months would be over. With that thought in mind he took her little hand in his own, "Deal."

Chapter 75 - The Sex Thing

Lucy tossed and turned on her bed all night as she thought about how to go about things with Tom. Was she making the right decision? Would Tom really let her be once she finally did it with him?

How was she going to tell him about her decision? When she eventually fell asleep that night she dreamt of Tom all through the night.

She woke up very late the next morning and hurriedly ran into the bathroom to brush her mouth. In her haste, she turned the basin tap handle too quickly and it broke, causing the angry water to splash all over her body and the bathroom.

"Shit!" She hissed irritably as she looked around the bathroom, trying to find something that would help her stop the water. She didn't have time for this at all. She couldn't afford to be late and let her boss get there before her. She thought of calling Tom over but decided to try and manage the situation as she would have done assuming she didn't have a neighbor like Tom. She tried tying a scarf around the broken tap, but that didn't stop the water from flowing, it only stopped the splashes. She looked around her helplessly until it finally occurred to her that she could stop the flow of water from the controller under the basin sink.

Once she did that, she made a mental note to ask Tom to fix it later as she quickly showered and prepared for work. She walked over to her closet and randomly picker out a light blue shirt which she tucked into a navy blue bodycon pencil skirt. She chose a pair of red block heels which matched her handbag.

As she walked out of her house and headed for the car where she knew he would be waiting, she decided she was going to be blunt with him, like he usually was with her.

"Good morning, did you sleep well?" Tom asked with a cheerful smile once he saw her approaching. He had just been thinking about going to check on her since she was over twenty minutes late, and that was unlike her.

"Good morning to you too. I did. What about you? Were you able to finish the job?" Lucy asked, and Tom gave her a nod.

"Yes, I did."

"Good," Lucy said with a small smile as she got into the front seat of the car, making Tom wonder what she was up to. She seemed friendly instead of cautious.

"You woke up late?" Tom asked as he drove off.

"Kinda. Was busy with work," Lucy said and Tom nodded in understanding.

"Could you help me fix the tap in my bathroom later in the evening? It broke while I was getting ready for work," Lucy said making Tom's heart skip a beat.

Fix a tap? He had never handled a screwdriver all his life, so how was he supposed to know how to fix her bathroom tap? "Uhm, how about you hand me your key? That way I can get it done while you're at work?" Tom suggested, thinking he would pay someone to fix it.

Lucy's brows creased. She wasn't sure she was comfortable with the idea of Tom being in her house in her absence. It wasn't like she was thinking he would steal anything, but she just wasn't okay with it, "Why not after work hours?" She asked. Ne/w novel chapters are published on no/vel(/bin(.)co/m

"Because I will be busy. I have to do something to do later in the evening," Tom lied. He had been hoping he would spend the evening with her, maybe take her somewhere fun, but now that was not going to work.

"Oh!" Lucy said with a thoughtful frown. It was either she have him do it at his convenience or have a total stranger do it at her convenience. She would rather have him in her home than someone else, "Okay. I will give you the key," Lucy said with a sigh, and Tom almost sighed in relief too.

Now that they had gotten that out of the way, they drove in silence for a while as Lucy kept trying to come up with the best opening line for the other conversation she wanted to have with him. The one that had kept her up for most of the night. How was she supposed to start? Could she just say, "Let's have sex"? Her face colored as she tried to imagine his reaction, and she shook her head. That sounded too direct like she was begging him to do it.

How about, "Let's do it"? Would that be appropriate? At least that would sound like she was giving in to his request, rather than offering herself to him on a platter.

"What are you thinking about so seriously?" Tom asked when he noticed the frown on her face.

Lucy's face colored in embarrassment as she was jolted out of her thoughts by Tom's question. She felt as though Tom could see through her to know what she was thinking, so she quickly turned her face away before clearing her throat, "Nothing," she said without looking at him.

Nothing? Nah. Seeing the blush on her face, there was no way he could believe that it was nothing.

The right side of Tom's lips curved upward in a smirk, "Why do I get the feeling that you were thinking about me, and whatever you were thinking isn't something that should be in the head of a good girl like you?" Tom asked in an amused tone.

"I was just thinking about work," Lucy said defensively as she tucked her hair behind her ear but kept looking outside. Why couldn't she just take this as the opening she needed and say what wanted to say? Why did she have to be so embarrassed over something almost every adult did? Lucy asked herself in frustration.

"You must have dirty thoughts about your job for you to be blushing this way while thinking about it. Or is it your boss? Don't tell me you're thinking about him!" Tom said in mock disbelief, making her hiss at him.

"You never got to tell me what you discussed with your lady friend yesterday during lunch. Is there any progress?" Lucy asked, changing the subject to one that interested her more. She wasn't ready yet to tell him what was on her mind. She knew if she didn't do that this morning, she wouldn't be able to focus on work, so maybe she would tell him her decision once they get to the company.

"Oh! That. Nothing really. She was just telling me about her job and then she asked about mine. I don't think she was very impressed to hear that I'm just a mere driver," Tom said with a smile that looked wistful as he remembered the disapproval he had seen on Anita's face when he told her that he was a driver.

"Why? Did she say anything that gave you that impression?" Lucy asked with a concerned frown as she turned to look at him now. She knew nothing could hurt a man more than to be looked down on by someone he cared about.

"You know how ladies are. She didn't say anything, but that was the vibe I got from her," Tom said with a shrug.

"I'm sure you're mistaken. Don't worry, I will get her for you. I promise," Lucy said with a confident smile making him want to chuckle.

"Don't try too hard. I'm not in a hurry anyway," Tom said with a small smile, "So what did you do last night after I left? Were you bored? Did you think of me?" Tom asked, once again making her the subject of discussion.

Lucy blinked at him before shaking her head, "No! I was very busy so I didn't think about you at all," she lied.

"That's sad, 'cause I thought about you for most of the night as I worked, wondering if you were thinking or dreaming about me," Tom said with a small smile.

He was thinking of her? Why? She really hoped he didn't like her more than he should, "You should be thinking of the lady, not me," Lucy blurted out before she could stop herself.

"I know, right? I wonder why I was thinking of you too," Tom said with a sigh as he drove into the parking lot of the company.

"Don't. Please don't think about me, let's focus on the lady, okay?" Lucy said in a pleading tone as she reached for the door.

"Why not?" Tom asked, stopping her before she could leave.

Lucy paused with her hand on the door. She said nothing for a while and just as Tom was about giving him on getting a response, she said, "Because I don't want you to. No good comes out of it."

Having said that, Lucy got out of the car before Tom could ask any more questions, and started walking towards the company building. She stopped when she remembered that she still hadn't told him her decision, and she was also supposed to hand him the keys to her apartment. She turned around and returned to the car where Tom was still seated and watching her.

"Here is the key," She said as she got to the car, while Tom unlocked the door so he could take the key from her. He looked at her curiously when she remained standing there like she still had something to say.

Lucy took in a deep breath, "You know what?"

"What?"

"Let's just do it and get it done with. I mean the sex thing," Lucy said looking directly into his eyes.

Chapter 76 - Lovely Undies

Tom chuckled to himself as he thought about his conversation with Lucy earlier. The plumber who was working on Lucy's broken basin tap handle turned to look at Tom who was leaning by the bathroom door, and watching him as he worked.

It was the fifth time he had heard Tom laugh since he started working, and he couldn't help but be curious as to what Tom was finding so amusing that made him keep laughing to himself.

Oblivious to the plumber's eyes on him, Tom kept replaying her words in his head, "The sex thing" he chuckled again. Who talks about sex that way? It was even the confidence with which she had said it that amused him most.

"Let's just do it and get it done with. I mean the sex thing," Lucy said looking directly into his eyes.

He had looked at her, trying not to look as surprised as he actually was, "I beg your pardon?" He had asked, wanting to give her time to rethink and rephrase what she had just said.

"Did you really not hear me, or are you just trying to make me repeat myself?" She had asked with a scowl.

"I heard you, but I'm not sure I understand what you mean. You mean you want me to have sex with you?" Tom asked with a slightly raised brow. That was when the blush he had been waiting for crept on her face, and she flushed a bright shade of red.

Lucy's mouth went dry. How did he always manage to leave her speechless? She had come to him wanting to be blunt, but one word from him, and she was left tongue-tied, "I... I mean... I..."

He was sure that if he hadn't already liked her before then, at that moment he liked her even more, seeing how flustered she looked. How could one person be so beautiful, innocent, and naive? Tom wondered and bent his head to one side as he looked at her with a blank expression while waiting for her to answer his question.

He had asked her to have sex with him, not the other way round, so why was he trying to embarrass her? Lucy squared her shoulder and raised her chin stubbornly. She wasn't going to let him bully her, "I don't want you to have sex with you. You said you... you said you wanted to be... You asked me to..." Lucy paused when she couldn't find the right words to express herself, "You know what? Let's just forget it," Lucy said and quickly turned around to leave. T/his chapter is updated by  $nov(\hat{e}(l)biin.co/m$ 

"How can I forget something like that?" Tom called out as he quickly got out of the car and hurried to catch up with her while she kept walking very fast, "When do you want us to do it? I mean the sex thing?" He asked, but she kept walking without saying anything.

He didn't relent either as he got into the elevator with her. Thankfully not many people were around at that time since Lucy always got to the office earlier than most, even when she was late like she was today.

Once the elevator door closed, giving them the privacy they needed, Tom pulled her to himself and descended on her lips before she could stop him.

Lucy's breath caught in her throat, and her heart fluttered as she felt his arms around her waist, while he kissed her very softly. He pulled away before she could respond in any way, "Let's talk about the sex thing later. I just wanted to make it clear that I heard you, and I understood what you said," Tom said as he stepped away from her.

Lucy didn't say anything. She couldn't. What was she supposed to say? She just stared ahead of her at nothing in particular, and once the door opened, she got out of the elevator and hurried away from him.

"I'm done," The plumber announced, bringing Tom's attention back to the present.

"What are the items you got?" Tom asked, going over to stand by the basin so he could see what had been done. He listened as the plumber gave him a breakdown of all he had bought and what he did, "Okay. Thank you," Tom said with a polite smile as he took out his wallet and handed him more dollar notes than he had charged.

"Thank you, sir," The man said happily as he gathered his items and left the house.

Tom's eyes moved around her bathroom and he grinned when he noticed her choice of undies that were hanging behind her towel on the towel rail. He was certain she had failed to hide them away because she had thought she would be home when he comes over to fix her broken tap. Too bad he hadn't seen it earlier, else he would have kept it away so that the plumber wouldn't see it. Although he doubted the plumber had looked in that direction. Well, he was the plumber as far as she was concerned, and he was going to make it clear to her that he had seen her undies.

For someone as naive and uptight as she was, he was surprised that she had a pretty sexy taste in undies. Or maybe he shouldn't be so surprised, seeing as she had been wearing a thong the first time he met her. She intrigued him. The more he got to know her, the more he wanted to know her.

"Lucinda Perry," Tom called her name out loud as though she was standing in the bathroom with him. He took out his phone and texted her.

Meanwhile, in Lucy's office, Lucy buried her face in her palm as she tried to get Tom and his kiss out of her head. Each time she tried to focus on the job in front of her she saw him pull her in for a kiss, and it made her heart flutter.

Wasn't he a bit too bold for a driver? What made him believe he could her and touch her whenever and however he liked? And why did she have to be so tongue-tied around him? Why did her body have to respond to his slightest touch and kisses? Perhaps it was because he was the first person to interact with her body so intimately? That had to be it.

She picked up her phone when it beeped with a message notification, and quickly opened it, thinking the text was from the CEO. She gasped in surprise, and her face flushed a bright red when she read the text which contained just two words, "Lovely Undies."

She quickly threw her phone in her handbag and glanced at the door guiltily when she heard a knock. She was going to think about Tom and a suitable response for him later, for now, she needed to focus on work, Lucy told herself as she took in a deep breath to calm herself.

"Come in," Lucy called out when she felt she was calm enough.

Anita walked in with a bright smile on her face, "Good morning," Anita greeted cheerfully. She was dressed in a short gray colored pencil skirt and a yellow shirt.

"Good morning," Lucy responded with an equally bright smile, even though she was wondering what Anita was doing in her office. So far she knew the CEO didn't have any appointments and neither did he have any plans of meeting anyone other than Mr. Harry, so why was Anita here during work hours?

"You're not too busy, are you? I was around the company so I decided to stop by and say hello to you," Anita said, even though her eyes were looking everywhere else but at Lucy.

"Oh! That is nice of you," Lucy said with an awkward smile. When she had approached Anita to be friends with her, she hadn't meant the sort of friends that dropped in unannounced like this during work hours.

"Is the CEO in?" Anita asked cocking her head in the direction of the CEO's office as she dropped her handbag on the desk, and comfortably lowered herself on the lone seat opposite Lucy.

The CEO? Was that why she was here? Lucy wondered as she looked at Anita, "I'm not sure he is in. I'm yet to see him today," Lucy said with a polite smile as she tried to figure out what was going on in Anita's head.

"Oh! I guess you don't see him often," Anita said with a slightly disappointed smile. She planned to visit Lucy's office as often as she could until she runs into the CEO coincidentally.

"So, what will you be doing this weekend?" Anita asked, thinking that she needed to get closer to Lucy to comfortably ask her questions about the CEO.

Anita's question reminded Lucy that it was Friday already, and she was going to have the whole weekend to herself to think and worry about Tom... Which was something she wasn't looking forward to, "I'm not sure yet."

"How about we hang out tomorrow? That way we can get to know ourselves better?" Anita asked with a sweet smile.

Lucy considered her for a moment, thinking that it wouldn't be a bad idea to hang out with Anita. That way not only would she be busy over the weekend and get Tom out of her head, but she would also be able to help Tom observe Anita and find out more about her and how he can win her heart, "I don't think it's a bad idea," Lucy said with a friendly smile and tried not to glance at her phone when it beeped again.

"Lovely! So where are we meeting? My place or yours?" Anita asked eagerly.

Would it be a good idea to invite Anita over to her house? She wasn't sure she wanted Anita to know that Tom was her neighbor yet, and she didn't want Tom to know about her plan either. She decided that for the best interest of them all, it would be best to meet at Anita's house.

"I'm new here, so I think it would be nice to leave my house for a change. Let's hang out at your place," Lucy suggested with a bright smile, and Anita clapped her hands excitedly.

"Perfect! I will text you the location and time," Anita said with a wide smile as she stood up and picked up her handbag, "See you tomorrow," Anita said with a wave as she walked out of the office.

Once Anita left, Lucy took in a deep breath as she reached for her phone to see what Tom had sent again. She raised a hand to her lips to stifle a surprised gasp as she read his text, "What color of undies are you wearing right now?"

Chapter 77 - Love Potion?

"What are you doing?" Matt asked from the doorway of the kitchen when he saw Bryan busy flipping fried eggs on a pan.

How could he be asking him what he was doing when it was obvious that he was cooking? "I'm playing PS, grab the other pad," Bryan said dryly without turning around to look at Matt.

Matt chuckled at the dry humor as he walked into the kitchen and tried to pick a diced sausage from the plate, but Bryan slapped his hands before he could get it, "That's for my fiancee," Bryan said, making Matt's jaw drop open, but Bryan didn't bother to look at him as he walked over to the coffee maker to get a cup of coffee for Sonia.

"Fiancee? Who?" Matt asked as he walked over to the door to see if Sonia was standing anywhere around the kitchen watching them, before returning to meet Bryan again, "What fiancee?"

"I believe you met her yesterday. Her name is Sonia Smith, and she is sleeping on my bed," Bryan said distractedly as he tried to focus on the task at hand.

"Sonia? The same Sonia you kept calling a green-eyed witch last night? What is going on between you two? Don't worry, she can't hear us, so you can tell me the truth," Matt asked Bryan in a very low tone as he followed him around the kitchen while Bryan arranged the breakfast on a tray.

"Tell you what?" Bryan asked innocently as he picked up the tray and started heading for the bedroom with Matt on his tail.

After his deal with Sonia earlier, Sonia had gone as far as suggesting that they both put it down on paper so that each of them could have a copy of it for future purposes. They had both also agreed not to tell Matt, Lucy, or anyone else about their deal, as it all had to be as real as possible since that was what Sonia wanted.

"Come on! Don't do that. I'm your best friend, and I deserve to know what is going on. I know something is up. So tell me, did something happen between you both? Don't tell me you screwed her already, you dog!" Matt exclaimed suspiciously.

"I don't know what you're talking about. Get out of my way, I need to return to my fiancee," Bryan said as he walked past Matt into the bedroom where Sonia was already awake and was busy on her laptop.

"Breakfast is ready, baby," Bryan announced as he walked up to the bed and dropped the tray by the bedside, while Sonia gave him an approving smile.

"You seem pretty enthusiastic about this whole thing," Sonia observed as she pulled the tray to herself while Bryan stood beside the bed, watching her as he waited for her to take her first bite.

"I always like to keep to my end of any bargain. You asked me to treat you as I would my fiancee, and that is exactly what I'm doing," Bryan said making Sonia smile as she took a forkful of egg into her mouth. T/his chapter is updated by nov(ê(l)biin.co/m

She closed her eyes as she chewed, "Hm, this tastes really nice," Sonia said in a tone that suggested that she was really enjoying the meal.

Bryan raised his chin proudly, "I'm Bryan Hank, there is nothing I cannot do," Bryan said confidently.

"That's nice. I look forward to seeing everything you can do," Sonia said with a playful smile.

"Sure you will, but make sure you don't fall in love with me," Bryan warned as he turned around to leave the room.

"Who says you won't be the one to fall in love with me? It is usually the person that asks the other not to fall in love, that falls headfirst in love," Sonia said in a challenging tone making Bryan scoff as he turned around to look at her.

"We will see about that. By the way, you should hurry up with your breakfast and freshen up so we can go out. We can't spend the entire day indoors like we did yesterday," Bryan said making Sonia raise a brow.

"I'm not going anywhere with you today. I have to get busy with my writing. Let's go out some other time," Sonia suggested.

"I'm sorry baby, unfortunately, you will have to keep your work aside and give me your undivided attention. That is what my fiancee would do," Bryan said, making Sonia roll her eyes.

"Your fiancee shouldn't focus on her job and career because she is engaged to you? I will let you know when I have time to spare," Sonia said as sipped from her coffee before returning her attention to her laptop.

Bryan watched as she typed on her laptop before telling her, "You have an hour to get ready, darling. Don't keep me waiting."

'You want a fiance, you will get one,' Bryan thought to himself as he turned around and walked out of the bedroom with a smirk on his face.

The sides of Sonia's lips curved in a satisfied smile as she watched him leave. 'That is more like' she thought to herself as she picked up her jotter to write down what had just happened.

Once Bryan opened the bedroom door, he saw Matt standing very close to the door like he had been eavesdropping on their conversation, "What were you both talking about?" Matt asked in a whisper.

"Were you eavesdropping on my conversation with my fiancee?" Bryan asked, glaring at Matt.

"Cut the crap and tell me what is going on, please. I feel I might die of curiosity if I don't know what is happening," Matt pleaded as he followed Bryan into the kitchen to clean up the place.

"What happened over the night? Come on, talk to me! Please!" Matt pleaded impatiently.

"Nothing. You can leave now, I don't think you need to do anything anymore," Bryan said, making Matt narrow his eyes.

"She must truly be a witch! She must have bewitched you while you were sleeping," Matt speculated after giving it some thought.

Bryan chuckled, "Stop saying nonsense. Let's just say I thought about all you said yesterday, and I decided to handle things the Bryan Hank way."

"Are you sure that is it? Hope you didn't poison her meal?" Matt asked, narrowing his eyes suspiciously.

"Since when did poisoning people become the Bryan Hank way?" Bryan hissed at Matt before walking to the sink to wash the dishes he had used to prepare Sonia's breakfast.

"It's not fair. I came all the way here to help you, but you are hiding the situation of things from me," Matt said grudgingly as he helped Bryan rinse and dry the dishes.

"Thank you for your help. I think I can handle things on my own now. And it is all thanks to the pep talk you gave me yesterday," Bryan said, turning to give Matt a toothy smile.

"You're sure that is all this is? You're not having any strange or funny feeling in your head? Like you love her all of a sudden?" Matt asked in a low voice, wanting to be sure Sonia hadn't used a love potion on his friend.

"What sort of a question is that?" Bryan asked in amusement.

"I need to be sure she didn't use any spell or love potion on you, so just answer my questions, okay? If you happen to see I and Sonia drowning in your pool, who would you jump in to save first?" Matt asked, cocking his head to one side as he waited for Bryan to answer.

Bryan sighed, trying not to roll his eyes at Matt's dramatic question, "You can't drown. You are a good swimmer."

"Anything can happen. Say I get a cardiac arrest while swimming and I start drowning, and Sonia is drowning too?" Matt asked with a seriousness that made Bryan roll his eyes now.

"Matt, I'm not under the influence of anything. I'm just trying to take charge of the situation, and right now you're not helping! Just trust me, and allow me to handle things my own way, okay?" Bryan said holding Matt's gaze. Matt looked at him suspiciously for a while before nodding his head.

"Okay. If you say so. But I'm not leaving yet. I just got here after all," Matt said, and Bryan nodded.

"That is fine as long as you treat her as you would treat my fiancee," Bryan said, giving Matt a pointed look.

"So I shouldn't try to seduce her?" Matt asked with a slightly raised brow.

Bryan sighed, "What part of 'treat her as you would treat my fiancee' did you miss?"

"Okay. Okay. Fine! You asked for it," Matt said in a warning tone before walking out of the kitchen. Once he was outside the kitchen door, he turned around to peer inside the kitchen so he could spy on Bryan, but Bryan was still looking at the door with a slightly raised brow so Matt flashed him a smile before walking away.

Once he was sure Matt had left, Bryan dried his hands and sat on one of the seats in the kitchen. Waking up that morning, he had made up his mind to consider Sonia as an actress and treat her like there was a camera watching them all the time. He had played the role of a doting fiance in several movies before, so doing that now was going to be easy-peasy.

His one-week break was going to end by Sunday, and from Monday he would be fully back to work; shooting movies and doing commercial shoots. He would be so busy that he would hardly have any time to spare, so he was just going to spend the weekend with her and give her a swell time.

He took out his phone to look for fun places where he could take her to. Maybe they could see a movie, go to an amusement park, and then have dinner in a fancy restaurant before returning home. That seemed like a good plan, Bryan thought with an impressed smile.

# Chapter 78 - Hate?

Tom had a grin on his face as he tried to picture the blush which he knew would be on Lucy's face after reading his text. Although he knew he was being naughty, he couldn't pass the opportunity to tease her a little. After all, she had been the one who had brought up the whole talk about sex that morning.

He got out of the car and headed for the building, deciding to stop by her office to return her key to her, and also see what she was doing, if she was paying attention to her work or whether she was distracted by his texts. His steps faltered when he saw Anita coming out of the building. What was she doing here again? Did she have another meeting with Harry? Tom wondered as he looked at her with a blank expression while she smiled as she approached him.

"Good morning, Tom! We meet again," She said with a cheerful smile.

Of course, her smile was cheerful since she had nothing against him. She liked Tom as a person since he was a very nice guy, and was good-looking too. If only he wasn't such a... A nobody, maybe she would have tried to take him seriously. Her mother and sisters would laugh at her endlessly if they ever heard that she had gotten involved with a blue-collar worker.

She remembered the first time they had met about three months ago. She had rammed into his expensive-looking car from behind and when she got out to apologize, she had met the gorgeous man behind the wheel who looked at her with a calm smile and asked her not to worry. At that moment, she had thought she had finally met the man of her dreams and had asked for his number so she could give him a call later to know if his car was okay.

She had tried to keep in touch after that day, and soon they had started exchanging texts. She had tried not to ask him what he did for a living because she hadn't wanted to sound like a gold digger. He looked decent and drove an expensive car, so that was enough to tell her that he was doing well for himself. That had been the reason she hadn't mentioned anything about her job either, since she had wanted to take things slowly between then.

Unfortunately, it was only after they went on their first date and she confessed to him that she liked him, and would like to go into a relationship with him if he was single, that he had opened up to her that he was a handyman and the car he had been with on the day they met belonged to one of his wealthy clients. She had been very disappointed but had tried to hide it by remaining polite. After that day she had slowly withdrawn and had made up excuses to stand him up on every date until he had finally gotten fed up to the point of ending their relationship, much to her relief.

"Good morning. What brings you here today? Another meeting?" Tom asked with a polite smile when Anita stopped in front of him. Aall *ne*west ch*a*pt*e*rs on n.o./vel*b*i/n/(.)c*o*m

"Not at all. I came to say hello to a friend," Anita said with a mischievous smile. There was no need to make things awkward between them by telling Tom that she was friends with his boss. She would leave that surprise for later when she finally gets the CEO to be her man.

A friend? She had a friend here? Tom wondered, but decided it was not his business, "I suppose you don't have much work to do at your office," Tom said, and Anita shrugged.

"You know how it is... Or maybe not," Anita said with an apologetic smile since she believed Tom wasn't very familiar with the structural organization of companies, "Things aren't settled yet. New management, new rules," she explained.

"I see. Okay then," Tom said with a nod as he waited for her to leave, but she remained there staring at him.

"I hope you don't hate me?" Anita asked with a curious smile. She knew that if Tom said anything bad about her to Lucy or the CEO he could ruin her chances even before she got any. She needed to make sure they were cool and he wouldn't say anything about her to anyone.

"Hate? That's a big word. Why would I hate you?" Tom asked with a slightly raised brow.

"You know... What happened between us," Anita said with an awkward smile.

"I would rather we don't talk about the past. Can you not mention to anyone here that we were ever involved with each other? Let's just forget the past, and act like strangers, okay?" Tom asked, making the smile on Anita's face falter.

Although she was glad that he was suggesting that they pretend not to know each other since that also served her purpose, but her pride was hurt that a mere driver and handyman like him was asking someone like her to pretend not to know him, "Why?"

"I don't think I need to give you any reason. Just don't tell anyone that we were involved with each other. Have a nice day," Tom said with a polite bow before walking away from her. Knowing the kind of person she was, he knew she wasn't going to go about telling anyone that they used to be in a relationship.

When he first met her and started exchanging texts with her, he had thought for a moment that she might be just the lady he needed in his life. But he had snapped out of that dream almost immediately the moment he lied to her that he wasn't as wealthy as he suspected she had assumed, and her attitude changed towards him.

Of course, he didn't have any problem with a lady wanting to marry a wealthy man. He only had a problem with the attitude she had given him simply because he wasn't as wealthy as she expected. If truly she liked him as she had claimed she did, then she would have treated him so differently.

He was only going to reveal his identity to the public once he was settled with the right lady. That would stop people like Anita from coming around him and trying to act like they cared about him. He wished he could say he looked forward to seeing her reaction when she finds out the truth, but he really didn't care about her or her reaction.

Anita straightened her back and raised her chin proudly as she watched Tom walk away. If he wanted her to pretend like nothing had happened between them, then that was okay by her. She wasn't going to feel bad about any of it. It wasn't her fault that he was poor after all, Anita thought as she walked away.

Once Tom got out of the elevator, he pushed thoughts of Anita out of his mind as he dipped his hand into his pocket and slid the key ring down on one of his fingers. He smiled in anticipation of his encounter with Lucy as he lazily walked over to her office. He had spent some time mulling over what he wanted to say and do to her, and he was already dying to see her colored face.

Lucy who had pushed her phone far away from her and was just beginning to be focused on the documents in front of her, looked up when the office door was opened, and her heart skipped a beat when she saw Tom standing there with a smile on his face that touched his eyes.

Seeing the smile on his face, his texts replayed in her head and she felt her cheeks flush a bright red. It wasn't lunchtime yet so why was he here? What did he want?

As if he could read her mind, he raised the finger holding the key and said, "I came to return your key."

Oh! "You have fixed the tap already?" Lucy asked, trying to focus on the current discussion and not think about the disturbing texts he had sent her.

"Yes ma'am," Tom said but made no move to approach her table to drop the keys or sit down. He just leaned back on the door lazily, watching her like a predator.

"So how much do I owe you?" Lucy asked as she picked up her bag, wanting to take out money for him.

"Come on, I think we have passed the stage where you should pay me for my services, don't you think so?" Tom asked, smiling at her again in a way that made her uncomfortable.

Lucy wanted to tell him they haven't passed any stage, but she decided to settle for a polite response instead, "I think it's only polite that I pay you for your services. I insist," Lucy said, looking at him as though she was waiting for him to tell her how much his service cost.

"What if what I want from you is not money?" Tom asked, making butterflies flutter in her belly. If he didn't want money what else could he want from her apart from the other thing?

She was too scared to ask the question out loud, since she knew him well enough to know he was likely going to ask for something silly, "Money is the only means of payment for such services," Lucy pointed out.

"Then don't pay me," Tom said with a shrug as he moved away from the wall and took his first step towards her, making her want to hide under her desk. How had their relationship changed so quickly in such a short duration?

# Chapter 79 - Dirty Talk

Tom kept his eyes on her as he took one step after another as he approached her. Lucy could hear her heart beating very fast with every step he took. What was he trying to do? This was her office. He wasn't going to try to kiss her here like the way he had kissed her in the elevator, was he? No! She couldn't let him do that!

"Stop! Stop!" She said, standing up and raising both hands, "My boss. The CEO is inside his office and he could step out any moment from now," she said, glancing towards the CEO's office, desperately trying to stop Tom from coming any closer to her.

Tom took another step towards her and smiled at the desperation he heard in her voice, "He is not. I saw him leave earlier, with Mr. Harry," Tom said as he took another step closer to her desk.

He liked to know that he affected her this way. He never would have thought in his wildest imaginations that he would be anything short of the gentleman he was, doing things like this to get a lady's attention. But here he was, getting bolder and becoming more daring by the day. And the

amusing thing about it was the fact that he was enjoying every moment of it. Maybe he had always had this in him just like Bryan but had been hiding it all under his good mannerisms. Now he was ready to throw all of that to the winds, as long as it got him what he wanted. He wasn't a womanizer enough to try this on different ladies. Only one lady interested him at the moment, and that was Lucy.

"Why didn't you respond to either of my texts, Lu?" Tom asked when he finally stopped in front of her.

Lucy's face heated up at the mention of his text, and she looked away from him in embarrassment, "Those texts were inappropriate," she said in a slightly cracked voice, before clearing her throat.

"Inappropriate? For someone who knows every curve and edge of your body? Do I need to tell you what you look like without your clothes on?" Tom asked, cocking his head to the side as he looked at her with mischief gleaming in his eyes.

"Tom..." She pleaded.

"Since you're ready for the sex thing, how about we do it here? Right now?" Tom asked with a boyish smile, making her heart skip a beat as she quickly shook her head.

"No! Not here. Not now. This is my office." She reminded him. But Tom ignored her as he went around the desk to meet her, while Lucy tried her best not to lose her composure and run out of her seat.

Once he stood behind her seat, he leaned forward so that his head was resting in the crook of her shoulder, and he placed one hand on the side of her neck, under her hair, and moved her hair to one side so that the part of her neck closest to him would be bare, while the other hand went around her waist. Lucy sucked in a breath when his finger brushed her skin in the process.

"We don't have to do the main thing right now," Tom suggested with a wink, "How about I use just my fingers to prepare you right now, for later?" He offered, even though he had no intention of doing something like that, or did he? He really didn't know. He couldn't trust himself anymore to know what he was capable of or not. He felt like he had become an entirely different person since he met Lucy.

Lucy almost swallowed her tongue when she heard his question, and she felt the spot between her legs throb in response to his question. Her head was screaming no, but her body seemed to be screaming yes.

It was the scent of his cologne. It was overwhelming her senses and confusing her. And the closeness wasn't helpful either, as his breath was fanning her neck. It made her want to close her eyes and angle her head to the side to give him access to kiss her neck, "Please..." Lucy cried weakly as she gripped the edge of her seat to maintain control of her senses.

"Okay, just tell me something I want to know and I will leave you alone," Tom said with a small smile, seeing how his closeness was affecting her. Gett the latest novels at n.o/(v)/e/l/bin(.)com

"What?" She asked in a voice that was cracked with emotion.

"What color of undies are you putting on right now? I know it's probably lace, but what color is it?" Tom whispered, making sure his lips brushed her bare neck.

Lucy bit her lower lip to keep herself from making any sound. All she needed was to tell him what color it was, right? That wasn't a big deal, "Lilac," she breathed.

Tom kissed her neck, "Good girl. Why don't we keep playing around the subject this way until we are ready to get down to the act? Cool right?" He asked as he straightened up and moved away from her desk, much to her relief, putting distance between them.

"See you at lunchtime," Tom said with a wink before heading for the door.

Bryan had said to build the sexual tension until she was forced to rip off his shirt herself. He wanted that too. He wanted to see her crazy with longing for him. Not a drunk Lucy, but a very clear-headed Miss Perry.

Although he wasn't exactly following all of Bryan's guidelines and instructions, he still got some major clues from Bryan which he found very helpful.

Once Lucy was certain that Tom had left, she let herself give in to her weak knees and she collapsed into her seat and raised a hand to her chest where her heart was beating so fast like it was about to explode from her chest. Tom was getting bolder by the day, and she had no idea what was behind this change.

#### \*\*\*\*\*

"Why aren't you dressed yet?" Bryan asked when he walked into the bedroom and found Sonia in the same position that he had left her earlier. The only difference now was that she had finished eating the meal he had served her earlier and had pushed the tray to the side.

"Dressed? But I'm dressed," Sonia said with a smile that seemed to be hanging on the balance between sweet and confused, as she looked down at her nightgown.

Without saying another word to her, Bryan stalked over to where she was and before she could guess what he was up to, he picked up her jotter and the laptop from beside her, "Now you have five minutes to get dressed," Bryan said as he walked out of the room carrying the items.

"What do you think you're doing?" Sonia asked, standing up from the bed in a hurry to follow him.

"Treating you as I would treat my stubborn fiancee. Now get dressed and stop wasting our time," Bryan ordered before stopping to look at her when she tried to reach for the laptop.

"Is giving your fiance a few hours of your time too much to ask for? Why are you still here if you won't even act like a fiancee?"

Sonia's brow creased a little as she looked at the laptop he was holding and then back at him. She had asked him to treat her like he would treat his fiancee, and so far he was doing exactly what she requested. Going out with him was going to give her more things to write about than staying indoors, so maybe she shouldn't be so difficult.

"I'll be ready in thirty minutes," She said in a resigned tone before turning to walk away.

"Good girl," Bryan said as he tapped her ass, making her turn to look at him with a slightly raised brow, "I would tap my fiancee's ass that way," he said with a grin.

Without saying a word Sonia rolled her eyes as she walked away, and the grin on his face turned into a smirk. Maybe this wasn't such a bad idea after all. At least he was no longer as bored as he was before her arrival, Bryan thought as he took the laptop and jotter into his study to hide it away from her. If she was going to work, she was going to have to do so when he wasn't around.

Exactly thirty minutes later Sonia joined him in the living room. Bryan's eyes roamed over the ripped jeans trouser and olive-colored crop top she was wearing with a jeans jacket, "You don't have a pretty gown? Like the one you wore yesterday?" Bryan asked, looking at her clothes with disapproval.

"I don't. Why?" Sonia asked as she looked around the house.

"I think I prefer to see you in gowns. You look sexier that way. Let's stop by a clothes shop on our way and get you some nice gowns before leaving," Bryan suggested.

"I have a lot of gowns at home. I chose not to bring them with me because I wasn't expecting you to take me out. Besides, I told you I didn't want you to spend your money on me," Sonia reminded him.

"Why won't you expect your fiance to take you out? Besides, I won't give you my money, but I can choose to spend my money anyhow I deem fit on my fiancee," Bryan said as held out his hand for her to take it.

Sonia smiled at him as she took his hand. Wasn't he doing a bit too much? She wondered as they both walked out, "Where is Matt? Why don't I see him anywhere around?" Sonia asked curiously.

"He stepped out to visit some friends," Bryan told her as he led her to the car and opened the front passenger door for her to get in. Once she was seated, she waited for him to shut the door and leave, but Bryan smiled at her as he reached over her for the seatbelt and buckled it, "I look forward to spending the day with you, baby," he said with a sweet smile as he leaned closer to drop a feather-light kiss on her lips.

Sonia narrowed her eyes after he pulled away and shut the door. What was he up to? Why was he being so sweet? Yes, she had asked him to treat her as a fiancee, but this was still kind of too much, wasn't it? Or was he trying to go and dump her somewhere no one would find her? She wondered as she turned around in her seat to look at Bryan who had gotten into the driver's seat next to her.

Bryan flashed her a smile when he met her curious gaze and then he turned on the car's ignition and drove off. He was going to give her the exact opposite of whatever it was she was expecting him to do. He was going to kill her with sweetness.

Chapter 80 - Jamie

"The car is too quiet, why don't you tell me more about yourself?" Bryan asked after a while as he drove.

Sonia who had been lost in her thoughts turned to look at him, "What do you want to know?"

"Everything your fiance should know about you. Your family, all your favorite things, the things you do not like, the important people in your life, your dreams and ambition, your happiest, saddest,

and most embarrassing moment. Everything that makes you Sonia Smith," Bryan said, making Sonia narrow her eyes at him.

Was he really interested in her life or was he just doing this to find something he could use against her? She asked herself, but decided to play along irrespective of the reason behind his question, "I suppose you will do the same after I'm done?" She asked, and Bryan glanced at her.

"Of course. Besides, if I remember correctly I already told you some things about myself the last time," he said, reminding her of the night of their fake engagement.

"So where should I start from?" Sonia asked since he had asked a lot of questions and she wanted to know which he was most curious about.

"Your family. What happened to them?" Bryan asked, and Sonia sighed.

It wasn't really a subject she liked to talk about, "My half-brother, Jamie, committed suicide and my mother and her husband blamed my best friend for it..."

Bryan's brows pulled together in a frown, "Your best friend? Why?"

Sonia recalled Lucy asking her not to say anything about her to Bryan so she shook her head, "It's all very complicated. Anyway, when they couldn't bear the loss of Jamie, they decided to move to another country and start over, but I insisted on staying back, especially as I just graduated from high school and I was already applying for colleges nearby and Lucy also needed me. They accused me of conspiring with Lucy to kill Jamie and they left bitterly and cut off communication with me," Sonia said with a scoff. She still couldn't believe that her mother had done that to her.

"I received a call three years later and was told they both died in a car crash. So, I have just Lucy now," Sonia said with an indifferent shrug, but Bryan didn't miss the sadness in her voice.

"Don't you wish you moved with them?" Bryan asked, turning to spare her a glance.

"I don't. They were being unreasonable by accusing Lucy of causing his death. Jamie had always been a jerk and a spoilt brat who always thought he deserved to get whatever he wanted. Also, we never really got along, and somehow a part of me didn't really feel bad when he died. I felt indifferent, and I think my parents noticed that," Sonia sighed again when she realized she had given too much information.

Bryan said nothing as he listened to her. So her family was dead? And her late parents blamed her half-brother's death on Lucy? "I'm sorry about that," Bryan said in a low tone.

"There is nothing to be sorry about," Sonia assured him. The only person she really felt sorry for was Lucy who had been dragged into Jamie's insanity because of her. If not for their friendship there was no way Lucy would have encountered a crazy person like Jamie. And because of Jamie, Lucy didn't want to get emotionally involved with anyone.

Bryan said nothing, choosing to give her some time to gather her thoughts. They could continue with their conversation later. He pulled the car to a stop in front of a cinema, and Sonia turned to look at him in surprise.

"What are we doing here?"

"What do couples do at a cinema? Let's see any movie of your choice," Bryan suggested.

Sonia's eyes lit up and her lips curved in a pleasantly surprised smile, "Really?"

Bryan returned her smile, and gave her a nod, "Of course," he said as he got out of the car to help her with her door.

"I thought we were going to stop over to get change my clothes since you didn't like this one?" Sonia asked as she took the hand he offered and let him lead the way inside.

"I figured we can always do that later. Let's start by seeing a movie. So what sort of movie do you like?" Bryan asked, ignoring the cameras he could see clicking in their direction.

"Why don't we see if any of your movies are showing at the Cinema? Have you ever done that before? Like, watch your movies during a date?" Sonia asked curiously as they walked over to the spot where the tickets were being sold.

"I only come to the cinema during movie premieres with other actors. I don't go on dates to cinemas when I can easily see any movie of my choice at home," Bryan pointed out as he joined the short queue of people waiting to get the ticket.

"Good then. I like to think that I'm sharing a new experience with you," Sonia said with a bright smile as she signaled to a young lady on the line, "Please do you mind snapping me and my fiance some pictures?" She asked with a friendly smile, and the lady returned smiled back since she recognized them.

"Sure," she said eagerly as she took the phone which Sonia extended.

Bryan placed his hands around Sonia's waist and brought her closer to him. He stood behind her with his hands around her waist and his head in the crook of her neck. The lady snapped them in that position, as they both smiled happily at the camera. After that, he changed his position and placed his chin on Sonia's head since he was taller than her, and this time Sonia raised both hands to touch his cheek. They changed styles four more times, before thanking the lady and taking the phone from her.

"Do you mind if I take a selfie with you both?" She asked hopefully, and Sonia looked at Bryan, who was also looking at her. Bryan shrugged, and the lady hurriedly stood beside Sonia so that Sonia was standing in the middle, while she snapped the selfie. The lady thanked them before leaving.

"I want some personal photos of you," Sonia told Bryan with a smile as she checked out the photos the lady had taken of them.

"I'm sure there are photos of me all over the internet, and even on my social media page," Bryan said, and Sonia shook her head.

"Those are for the general public. I want personal photos of my fiance. Photos that other eyes haven't seen," Sonia said with a smile as she wrapped an arm around Bryan's waist while they moved forward in the queue since it was their turn to get their tickets now.

"Okay. You can snap as many photos of me as you want as long as I am your fiance. Just don't snap anything scandalous," Bryan warned in a low tone.

"I won't," Sonia assured him with a soft smile before reaching for the paper on which the movies that were showing for the day were listed, "Let's watch this one," Sonia said, pointing at one of the movies which Bryan had played the lead role.

"Okay," Bryan said as he made the payments. Let's hang around and play games while we wait for the movie to start showing," Bryan suggested as he took the tickets and placed them in his pocket before taking Sonia's hand.

"Okay, let's do that," Sonia said with a nod as she let him lead her away from there to the amusement arcade center where they could play electronic games.

"I'm curious about something, what gave you the inspiration for your fantasy story, The Witch And Her Hunter?" Bryan asked, making Sonia look at him with an impressed smile.

"I see you read my book."

"You're my fiancee, I should read your books as your number one fan," Bryan reminded her, and she smiled at him. Explore new *n*ovels on *no*velbi*n*(.)com

She wished she could read minds, so she could know exactly what he was thinking, and why he was being so sweet. Or was it just because of the deal she had offered him? If she had known offering him such a deal would change him this much, she would have offered it the very first time they met.

"Did you enjoy the story?" Sonia asked curiously.

"More than I intended to actually. Once I started I couldn't stop until I finished it," Bryan said honestly, making Sonia's smile widen even more.

"I'm happy to hear that. Well, I don't think anything inspired me. I'm a writer, so I just come up with stories in my head. I wanted to do a fantasy story for a change, hence I came up with that," Sonia said with a shrug.

Bryan paused to pay for the games and take the cards they were to use before leading her to one a game booth where they could play a shooting game, "Why are you not into screenwriting? I think you're a very talented writer."

"Thank you. I was going to meet with a movie producer concerning the adaptation of one of my books, on the night you proposed to me," Sonia said with a small smile, pleased by his compliment, "And don't forget I told you I was going to make our story into a script, and have you play the lead role. I'm working on it. I'm going to learn all I can on that and become a screenwriter too," Sonia assured him, and Bryan gave her a nod.

"That's good. Now let's see how good you are at playing other games," Bryan said as he sat down on the seat of one of the game machines, and Sonia sat on the one beside him.