

Wild Night 781

Chapter 781 Just Us Girls

The moment Tom, Harry, and Jade arrived at Bryan's place, Jade got out of the car and headed for the house ahead of Tom and Harry.

"Lucy, I think you should go back home to Tom. I don't want him interrupting every moment I have with Harry simply because you're not there to keep him occupied," Jade said with a scowl.

"He is at Harry's place?" Lucy asked curiously, since she was somewhat surprised that he had not called her yet.

"No, he is outside. We came to pick Andy, but I'm sure he is here more because he wants to see you than because of Andy," Jade said, and Tom who had just walked into the place with Harry scowled.

"I still don't get why our parents adopted a brat like you out of all the kids in the world," Tom said, and Jade rolled her eyes.

"If anyone was adopted, it must be you. It's almost always the first kid who is adopted," she said and the rest of them laughed.

"Mom said she needed a girl. They got two boys already and she didn't want to get pregnant again, so she settled for an adoption. You should ask them when they get here tomorrow. You need to go find your real parents," Tom said with an apologetic look, and Jade glared at him.

"You are a bastard!" She said, while Andy turned to Candace.

"Are they always like this?" She asked the same question on Mia's mind and Candace giggled and waved it off.

"Don't take them seriously," Candace assured Andy and Mia who seemed to be taking the exchange to heart.

"Tom, stop being mean to Jade. Are you here to see me or Andy?" Lucy asked and Tom shook his head.

"I'm here to see how my soon to be sister-in-law is doing, and to see the newest Jonas sister. Hey, Sony, how are you feeling?" Tom asked as he went to meet Sonia and kissed her cheek.

"I feel like shit. Thanks for releasing Lucy," Sonia said and Tom nodded.

"Sure. Anything for you and the little one. You can keep her here with you for as long as you want, I don't mind," Tom said and Lucy raised a brow.

"Really?" Lucy asked and Tom nodded.

"Don't listen to him, Sony. He doesn't mean it," Jade said and Sonia smiled at Tom.

"Thanks. Before you got here I was telling Lucy that I wish she would stay with me until the baby comes...." Sonia and the others burst into laughter when Tom's expression changed into a frown.

"I told her I wasn't going to do that, but since you are kind enough to offer me to her for as long as she wants, I'm going to move in here," Lucy said and Tom tried not to scowl.

As if choosing not to comment on that, he turned to Andy with a pleasant smile, "Hello, Andy," Tom said as he looked at Andy, and she grinned at him.

"I finally get to see you. I've heard so so much about you," she said and he cocked a brow.

"I hope you liked everything you heard," he asked and she shrugged.

"Unless they are all scared of you, no one had anything bad to say about you.," Andy said and Tom smiled.

"I like you. Welcome to the family, Andy," he said with arms opened and Andy grinned as she went to embrace him.

"Why are you so quiet? That's unlike you," Candace said, focusing on Harry who was yet to say a word since he walked in with Tom.

"We're you missing my voice so badly?" Harry asked and Candace giggled.

"Can I have a word with you in private, Mia?" Harry asked, since his gaze had been on Mia the whole time.

"Sure," Mia said as she rose to go talk to him while Jade frowned and raised a brow.

"Can I come?" She asked, but Harry shook his head.

"I said in private. If I wanted you to hear I would say it in front of everyone," Harry said and Jade scowled at his back as he walked outside with Mia.

"Why is he always so interested in Mia anyway?" Jade asked irritably as she went to sit beside Candace.

"Are you scared he might dump you for her?" Candace asked and Jade rolled her eyes.

"No. Tom, why is Harry so interested in Mia?" Jade asked and Tom raised a brow.

"Back to talking to me? I thought I was a bastard?" He asked and she shrugged.

"Being a bastard doesn't stop me from talking to you. You started it first by saying I was adopted," Jade reminded him.

"I don't have time for this," Tom said as he turned to Lucy.

"Can I have a word with you?" He asked and she raised a brow.

"I thought you were here to see your sister-in-law and the Jonas sister, not me?" She asked and he grinned.

"There is no harm in saying hello to my girlfriend when I meet her at my sister-in-law's place, is there? I didn't want to come to see you because I didn't want to distract you from attending to Sony," Tom said and Lucy giggled.

"Like I buy that nonsense," Lucy said as she rose to go talk with him at the bar.

"Tom is just as clingy as you after all," Candace said in amusement.

"You are just realizing? You should see how pathetic he looked when he came over to Harry's. 'I don't want to go home when she is not there'" Jade said, mimicking Tom's tone and expression, and all four of them laughed.

"That's so sweet," Andy said and both Candace and Sonia agreed with her.

Some feet away from there, Harry and Mia stood outside, "How are you doing?" Harry asked Mia with concern and she shrugged.

"I'm fine. You?" She asked, no longer feeling uncomfortable now that Harry knew the truth about her.

"I'm okay. I have been thinking about our last discussion for some time now," Harry said and Mia raised a brow.

"And?"

"And I don't like that you are living in hiding when you did nothing wrong," Harry said and Mia shook her head.

"I don't mind. I prefer...."

"Can you trust me to protect you?" Harry asked and she shook her head.

"No. I don't know what this is about, but no. I don't want you getting involved or...."

"Do you think you will be able to live in hiding forever? It is only a matter of time before your family finds out that you are alive. Why don't you come out of hiding before they find you? I'm not asking you to go back to them. I'm asking you to cut ties with them the right way if you must. That way you can retain your identity and be free to live a normal life without having to shy away from cameras," Harry said but Mia shook her head.

"I don't want to. I can't face them...."

"Why don't you think about it and get back to me?" Harry asked and Mia looked at him with a confused frown.

"Why? Why would you want to get involved in my business or do that for me?" She asked and Harry sighed.

"Because I have two sisters who have gone through their fair share of emotional abuse and have also lived in hiding and I wish someone could have helped them. I wasn't there for them, but I can be here for you if you let me. I'm not asking for anything in return. All I want is a chance to help you so that you never have to live in fear or hiding again," Harry said and Mia drew in a shaky breath.

"I don't know. I will think about it," she said, and Harry nodded.

"That's good enough. Can I have your number? That way I can talk to you over the phone instead of excusing you from everyone else and making them curious," Harry explained and Mia nodded.

"Sure," she said as she took Harry's phone and typed in her number.

Harry dialed her number and when it rang, he saved it, "That's my number. You can call me if you need my help," Harry said before they both returned inside to join the others.

The moment Mia returned inside, she ordered for a cab and bid the others goodbye as she left, leaving them to wonder what she and Harry had discussed.

Away from there, at the bar, the moment Tom and Lucy were alone, Tom pulled Lucy to himself and embraced her tightly.

"I've been missing you like crazy since you left the office," Tom confessed, and Lucy sighed deeply as she hugged him back.

"Yet you offered me to Sonia on a platter," she said and he pulled back.

"It's the least I can do for my sister-in-law even if I don't like it," he said and she smiled.

"How was therapy?" He asked as he sat on one of the barstools and pulled her close to himself.

"It was nice as usual. I'm glad you came around," Lucy said and Tom raised a brow.

"Really? I thought you didn't want me to because I would distract you from focusing on Sonia?" He asked and she shrugged.

"That doesn't mean I won't be happy to see my man. Besides, I was missing you too," Lucy said and Tom grinned.

"Then I should have just come straight here instead of going to Harry's and looking for an excuse to come see you," Tom said and Lucy smiled.

"The only excuse you need to come see me, is missing me. And we can talk over the phone at night before going to bed," Lucy said and Tom nodded.

"Alright. It's just going to be tonight and tomorrow. I will survive, and if I don't, know I love you," Tom said dramatically and Lucy giggled.

"Please do. You know I can't live without you," Lucy said and Tom grinned.

"I guess I have to do all I can to survive. Your parents will be at my place, right?" He asked since both their parents were coming in together the next day.

"Right," Lucy said and Tom smiled, pleased that she wasn't insisting on them going to stay at her place as she had done the last time.

"Alright then. I should get going, since I'm leaving alone," Tom said with a pitiful face.

"Don't look so sad, my love," Lucy said as she kissed him.

As Tom rose to leave, he looked at her again, "Sonia was joking about you staying with her until the baby comes, right?" Tom asked and Lucy giggled.

"She wasn't. But don't worry, I have no plans of being away from you for that long. I can visit her often but I definitely won't move in with her unless we are doing so together or she is moving in with us," Lucy said and Tom nodded in approval.

"That's good enough for me then," Tom said as they both returned to the living room to join the others.

They got there in time to hear Jade say, "I have changed my mind about going back with you. I'm just going to stay here with Sonia and the others."

"Are you serious?" Harry asked and Jade nodded.

"Yes. It's not like we are going to have the house to ourselves anyway. Andy will be there, and I know Tom will be a nuisance for as long as Lucy remains here. I'd rather have fun with the girls here, so you both should have fun," Jade said with a shrug.

"Alright. Enjoy yourself. What about you, Andy?" Harry asked and she flashed him an awkward smile.

"If Jade and Candace are staying then I should stay here too. I don't want to miss out on all the fun. I can come over to know your place before we go back to Sogal," Andy said and Harry nodded.

"Alright then. Since you're all here, I will leave the car. Tom, do you mind dropping me off?" Harry asked and Tom grinned.

"You know I don't. Let's go have some fun too," Tom said and kissed Lucy goodnight before heading for the door.

"Are you sure you won't regret that later?" Candace asked Jade as they watched Harry and Tom leave.

"No. They should go have fun," Jade said dismissively and then grinned.

"Now it's just us girls! Speaking of which, did I tell you girls that Philip proposed to Aurora?" Jade asked, surprising Lucy, Sonia, and Candace and leaving Andy lost.

"Already?"

"Are you serious?" Candace and Sonia asked, and Jade bobbed her head.

"I was equally shocked when she called to inform me earlier. In her own words, they both tick each other's boxes and see no reason to waste any more time apart, when they have been searching for each other their whole life," Jade said and they all awwed.

"That is so beautiful," Lucy said and Jade nodded.

"She wants me to be her maid of honor since I played a role in their getting together," Jade said with a giggle, and Andy raised a brow.

"I suppose Aurora is the lady she tried to make Harry date?" She asked Candace when she finally figured it out since she had heard how Jade had tried to make Harry date someone else before she fell for him.

"Yeah," Candace said with a nod.

"I wonder how they went from not defining their relationship to being engaged in such a short time," Lucy said with an amused smile.

"It's the same way Candace went from tiptoeing around us and not wanting to date Matt to moving into my house just to spend time with Matt," Sonia said and Candace scowled at her while the others giggled.

"Why didn't you use Lucy as an example?" Candace asked and Jade raised a brow.

"Because using you is more fun," Sonia said with a shrug.

"What about Lucy could she have used?" Jade asked at a loss.

Candace smiled, "She told me...."

"Candace," Lucy called with disapproval and Sonia frowned at Candace.

"Lucy told me she never wanted to date anyone until she met Tom, and now see her living with him. If that isn't change, what is?" Candace asked, and grinned at Lucy, knowing that Lucy had thought she was about to expose her secret to Jade and glad that she had been able to mess with her.

"That's common knowledge," Jade said easily.

"Aurora is coming to my bachelorette party tomorrow, right?" Sonia asked, returning the subject to Aurora and Jade nodded.

"Definitely! You know she won't miss any opportunity to spend time with us," Jade said and Sonia clapped happily.

"I'm so happy you're all going to be here with me. I'm beginning to feel excited about my wedding," Sonia said happily, and they all smiled.

They couldn't wait for her to go to bed so they could meet and make more plans for the bachelorette party.

Chapter 782 Very Offended

After spending some time talking and laughing, the ladies decided to fix dinner together and they were still in the middle of that when Bryan and Matt got back.

"Babe?" Matt called in pleasant surprise when they traced the sound of laughter to the kitchen and found the ladies there.

"Hi!" Candace greeted with a grin, and Matt laughed happily as he went over to where she was and swept her off her feet.

"Why didn't you tell me you were here?" He asked happily, not paying attention to anyone else as he carried a giggling Candace out of the kitchen.

"Hello to you too, Matt! It's so good to see you," Andy called after him dryly, making Lucy, Jade and Sonia giggle.

"Hey!" Bryan said, flashing Andy an awkward smile since the last time they met, she had given him a lap dance now here she was standing in his kitchen.

"Small world, isn't it?" She asked as though she could read his mind.

"Indeed," Bryan agreed before shifting his gaze to Sonia.

"I suppose I don't get a welcome back home hug or kiss?" Bryan asked from the kitchen door, not wanting to get too close to Sonia.

"Aww, this must be tough on you. Should I give you a hug?" Jade offered, feeling sorry for Bryan, while Lucy and Andy stared at Sonia, willing her with their eyes to go to him.

"Aww, this must be tough on you. Should I give you a hug?" Jade offered, feeling sorry for Bryan, while Lucy and Andy stared at Sonia, willing her with their eyes to go to him.

Without responding to Jade, or waiting for Sonia to respond, Bryan walked away and all three ladies turned to Sonia.

"What is wrong with you? Why are you treating him like he infected you with some disease?" Lucy asked with a frown.

"That's not how I'm treating him. It's just that I can't really stand him right now and he understands," Sonia said defensively.

"He understands, maybe, but you are hurting his feelings. He looks hurt," Jade said and Andy nodded in agreement.

"Go to him, Sony," Lucy advised, jerking her head to the door for Sonia to leave.

"Really, you girls are making a big deal over nothing. You're all taking things personally on his behalf when he clearly understands that it's not about him," Sonia said and Jade pointed to the door.

"Stop making my brother sad. Go to him, else on your wedding day I'm going to object your union," Jade threatened and Sonia rolled her eyes.

"Go!" Andy said as she got off the counter and pushed Sonia towards the door.

"You're all so dramatic, she said before going in search of Bryan.

Once she walked into their bedroom, she saw Bryan taking off his clothes, "You won't believe they sent me out of the kitchen, asking me to come to you because they think you are upset," Sonia said as she sat on the bed.

"You don't have to bother about me, you can go back to join them," Bryan said without looking at her.

"Are you?"

"Am I what?" Bryan asked in confusion.

"Are you hurt?" Sonia asked, and this time Bryan turned to face her.

"How can I not be hurt even though I'm trying hard not to be? Do you have any idea how much I've been regretting this pregnancy lately?" Bryan asked, trying not to raise his voice.

"What? You are upset? But I explained to you...."

"Yes! Yes, you told me it's the pregnancy that's making you feel this way about me. How is that supposed to make me feel? If the table was turned, how would you feel? You are not making even any effort. I try my best to stay out of your way all day, yet you are not making any effort to come close to me. Will embracing me with a smile on your face when I return to the house after being away all day, make you sick? If I was the one who said I was repulsed by you because of your pregnancy, how would you feel? So far I've been putting myself in your shoes and doing the best I can for you, but you're not doing the same for me. After this baby, I don't want any more babies," Bryan said while Sonia watched him vent silently.

"I didn't know you felt that way. You should have told me so," she said quietly.

"You would have known I felt that way if you bothered to spare me a glance. Don't worry. After our wedding I will move back to Tom's and you can have the house to yourself since you can't stand my presence," Bryan said and Sonia sighed as she went to him.

She had forgotten for a moment just how sensitive Bryan could be, and she had let herself get carried away by the changes brought about by her pregnancy.

"You know you can't move back to Tom's. I can't do this without you," Sonia said as she stopped in front of him.

"You've shown me so far that you don't need me and you want to do the whole pregnancy thing alone. I'm trying. I want to be here for you but you won't even let me. You keep pushing me away and...."

"I'm sorry," Sonia said, cutting him off because she could see that the more he talked about it the more upset he got.

"It's just that this whole pregnancy thing is harder than I envisioned. Whenever I thought of pregnancy, I pictured having the perfect baby bump and the cute feeling of having the baby move in my abdomen. I didn't really bargain for all these other symptoms. And maybe a part of me feels sort of resentful that I'm the only one going through all of these changes. You can eat whatever you want and you feel perfectly okay but it's not the same for me. I feel ill merely thinking about food," Sonia said and Bryan frowned.

"Is that what you think? Didn't you notice that I don't eat whatever you can't eat?" Bryan asked calmly.

"I know that, yet I can't help it! It's not like it's deliberate. It's just the way I feel, and even though I know it doesn't make sense, I can't help it. So, I'm sorry if it feels like I'm pushing you away," Sonia said and Bryan sighed.

"This phase will pass, babe. I understand that it's not easy on you, but you are not making it easy on me either. Let's not allow this phase to come between us. We still have a really long way to go. How do you intend to get married to me in two days if you can push me away because of your hormonal emotions?" Bryan asked and Sonia shrugged.

"Maybe we should cancel the wedding," she said and burst into laughter when Bryan's jaw dropped in surprise and his eyes grew wide.

"I'm just kidding," she rushed to assure him.

"You had better be kidding. I will blindfold and dumbfold you if I have to get you to the venue," Bryan said and she giggled.

"Dumbfold?"

"Yeah. If blindfold is to cover your eyes so you don't see, then dumbfold will be to cover your mouth so you can't speak," Bryan said and she giggled.

"That's not an English word," she said and he nodded.

"You make up words all the time, so I guess it rubbed off on me," Bryan said with a grin, glad that he could make her laugh once again.

Sonia embraced him, "I'm sorry. I will make a conscious effort to not pull away from you, even if it means puking on you," she promised and made a gag sound.

Bryan quickly pulled back from her thinking she wanted to throw up, and she giggled, "What? I thought we were in this together?" She asked as she approached him again, while making the gag sound, and Bryan moved away from her.

"Keep your distance...."

"No way! You wanted my attention, now you got it. We can't allow this phase to get between us," Sonia said and they both laughed as she chased him around the bedroom.

Down the hall, Matt lay on the bed with Candace, feeling really happy to have her there with him.

"So, you were going to go wait at my place had Sony not to told you I was here?" He asked and she nodded.

"That would have been a bummer," Candace said and Matt shrugged.

"I would have come over to get you regardless of the hour. But I'm glad you're here. I've missed you so much," Matt said with a grin as he looked at her.

"So, tell me all that has happened in my absence. Anything new?" He asked and Candace grinned.

"You won't believe that Cassidy got Andy a house and a car. The house is in one of the estates close to yours," Candace said and Matt raised a brow.

"That's nice of him. How did Andy react?" He asked, and Candace grinned as she told him all about it.

"So, what about you? How is the new movie coming? You never told me about your role," She asked curiously.

"It's fun. I'm acting as Bryan's best friend in the movie. How do you feel about seeing me kiss other ladies on screen?" Matt asked and Candace frowned.

"You are acting a romantic role?" She asked as she sat up and he nodded.

"Yeah."

"Who are you kissing? How deep is the kiss? And how pretty is the actress? Who is she?" Candace asked and Matt chuckled.

"Relax, babes. You are getting worked up," he said and she scowled at him.

"Don't ask me to relax! You are not the one whose boyfriend is going about kissing ladies in the name of being an actor," she hissed and he grinned.

"But I'm the boyfriend in question, and I'm saying it's not a big deal," Matt assured her.

"Maybe I should go into the entertainment industry too. I'm sure you won't find it so amusing to watch me kissing other people," she said and he smiled.

"But I didn't mind my girlfriend giving other guys a lap dance," Matt pointed out and glared at him.

"You're so cute when you are jealous." Matt said and she scowled again.

"That won't work on me," she said and he grinned.

"What will work? Tell me so I do it," Matt said and she pursed her lips.

"What's the name of the actress?" Candace asked again.

"Why?"

"I want to see if she is hotter than I am," Candace said and Matt chuckled.

"Is that you complimenting yourself?" He asked and she rolled her eyes.

"I'm hot. I know it, everyone knows it, duh!" She said, and Matt smiled.

"Good. I'm glad you know it. You should know that no one is as hot as you. All those actresses will have to come take hotness lessons from you if they are ever going to get my attention," Matt said and Candace grinned.

"I know, right? They don't stand a chance," Candace said and Matt laughed again.

"No one does," Matt said, and Candace relaxed against him again.

"So, how is my Jam doing?" Matt asked and Candace sighed.

"He is fine. He really wanted to come with us. We had to ask him to choose between coming for Sonia's wedding and Lucy's Christmas party," Candace said and Matt chuckled.

"I'm sure he chose Lucy's Christmas party without hesitation," Matt said and Candace smiled.

"Yeah."

"So, how has it been, settling in with your dad?" Matt asked since he had been wanting to ask her that but did not want to do so over the phone.

"Some times it is weird, but it has mostly been wonderful. I don't think any of us realized how much we needed a male presence in our lives until now. And my dad is so understanding and loving. He has been teaching Jamal how to ride a bike and taking him to the studio once a week to see how things are done there. Jamal loves it there. He keeps talking about how he is going to become richer than all of you combined," Candace said and Matt chuckled.

"I don't doubt it," Matt said easily.

"What's the plan for the bachelor's eve? I know you are the one planning it," Candace said and Matt shook his head.

"I'm not telling you...."

"Why not? Are you bringing in strippers for Bryan?" Candace asked and Matt raised an eyebrow.

"Why? Do you want me to give you the gig?" He asked and laughed hard when she pulled away from him with a gasp of dismay.

"No, you didn't just say that!" She said and when Matt only laughed harder she picked up one of the pillows to hit him.

"I feel very offended! How can you joke about something like that?" Candace asked with a frown.

"Because it's not a big deal, and I want to be able to joke about that with you until you loosen up and stop thinking of it like some dirty topic you don't want to talk about. So? Do you want the gig?" He asked again.

"You are unbelievably annoying," Candace hissed as she walked out of the room angrily while Matt merely grinned as he watched her leave.

He knew she would come around. She still needed some time, but he would keep teasing her with it until she stopped being so uncomfortable about it.

He raised a brow when the door opened again, and Candace stood by the door, "Did you think I won't remember that you didn't tell me the name of the actress? What is her name?" she asked with a frown.

"I thought you were mad at me?"

"I was mad. I'm still very mad. Just say her name and I will be on my way," Candace said and Matt sighed.

"It's Gemima...."

"What? I thought she was just a model?" Candace asked in disbelief.

"She models more than she acts, but she does act in movies too. And you know you are way hotter than her. She doesn't stand a chance with me...."

"Fuck you," she hissed as she slammed the door making Matt wince.

That definitely went much better than he had expected. He had deliberately not mentioned it to her until they met because he wanted to be able to gauge and manage her reaction in person. It wasn't so bad.

Chapter 783 Quit Being Sorry

An angry Candace stormed into the kitchen where Lucy, Jade, and Andy were laughing over something Andy had said and they all looked at her with curious expressions.

"What is wrong? Don't tell me your honeymoon phase has ended already after he whisked you away so romantically earlier," Andy said dryly and both Lucy and Jade laughed.

"Can you believe Matt? Can you girls believe that he agreed to shoot a kissing scene with Gemima?" Candace asked incredulously, and both Lucy and Jade looked at her with a frown while Andy raised a brow.

"I'm lost. Who is Gemima? And why are you so worked up about it when you know roles like that come with acting?" Andy asked and Candace glared at her.

"Gemima! The model I told you has a thing for him," Candace snapped at her.

"Oh, that! Good thing you know she has a thing for him, and it's not the other way around. You should have no problem letting her have a taste of what she can't have. I don't see why it is a big deal. You are dating an actor. Deal with it," Andy said with a shrug and Candace glared at her.

"Calm down, Candace. Did Matt tell you about it? What did he say? How did he say it?" Jade asked, and Lucy nodded, since she was going to ask the same question.

"He wasn't going to tell me she was the one. He asked if I had a problem with him kissing other ladies while on set, and I demanded to know who she was," Candace said and Jade nodded.

"And then what did you say? And what did he say again after what you said?" Jade asked, and Candace frowned.

"Are you interested in calming me or are you more concerned about knowing the details of our conversation?" Candace asked making Andy, Jade, and Lucy to giggle.

"Andy already tried to calm you, but it didn't work, so I'm guessing you just need to vent. Besides, how do you expect me to calm you if I don't get the whole picture of why you are upset?" Jade asked with a grin.

"I'm a lawyer. I work better with details. It will be better if you can also describe the expression on both your faces so I can picture it better," Jade added, and this time Candace laughed.

"You are not helping, Jade! I'm upset," Candace said and Lucy shrugged.

"I think Sonia might be the best person to calm you. Ask her how she deals with Bryan kissing on set, since we all know he has been involved in one scandal or the other with most of the ladies he pairs with in movies," Lucy said, and Candace nodded.

"You know I'm nothing like Sonia. Sonia is crazy," Candace said, and Sonia who just returned to join them grinned at her.

"Thanks for the compliment. For a moment I was beginning to think I lost it," Sonia said pleasantly and they all laughed.

"What were you girls talking about?" Sonia asked since she had only joined them in time to hear what Candace had said.

Candace explained the situation to her and she shrugged, "I don't think you should worry about her. Matt is yours, and kissing someone on stage isn't going to change that, whether or not she is Gemima. Besides, you have met her before and you know their history. They've kissed and banged before, yet here he is with you, Isn't that better than him kissing someone you don't know at all?" Sonia asked and Candace sighed.

"I suppose you have a point. But that is not the only reason I'm upset," Candace said as she sat by the island, and Andy raised a brow.

"What else did he do? Don't tell me they are also going to have sex?" Andy asked and Candace eyed her with displeasure.

"I asked him what the guys were doing for Bryan's bachelor's Eve and if they were getting strippers. Guess what he said?" Candace asked with a scowl.

"Why would they need strippers when they have us to perform for them?" Andy guessed with an amused smile.

"He asked if I wanted the gig!" Candace said, and they all burst into a giggle.

"It's not funny," Candace said as she glared at them all.

"I can't believe he said that!" Lucy said in amusement.

"That's my point! How can he say that to me? Not once, but twice!" Candace said, infuriated by the thought of it.

"I hope you told him you want the gig?" Sonia asked, and Candace scowled at her.

"Are you deliberately trying to annoy me?" She asked and Andy sighed.

"You are overreacting. We both know he was teasing you. It's not a big deal. Stop being so touchy," Andy said and before Candace could respond, Lucy clapped her hands.

"Time out. I don't want my darling cousins fighting," Lucy said and Jade rolled her eyes.

"You're no fun, Lucinda. Let them be. Their bickering is distracting me from thinking about what Harry might have talked to Mia about," Jade said and they all looked at Jade.

"Why are you still thinking about that?" Lucy asked in confusion, and Jade shrugged.

"Because I'm an overthinker and my brain just won't stop analyzing things. I can't let it go until I know why Harry is always so curious about her...."

"I'm very curious about her too. She seems like a very interesting person. I want to be friends with her," Andy said and Jade raised a brow.

"More interesting than I am?" She asked and Andy rolled her eyes.

"I'm not Harry. You shouldn't ask me that," Andy said and Jade pouted.

"Is it a bad idea if I...."

"Yes!" Candace and Andy said in unison and Jade scowled.

"You didn't even hear what I had to say yet," she said with a frown.

"If you have to ask if it is a bad idea, then it most likely is a bad idea," Candace explained and Jade sighed.

"What bad idea were you coming up with?" L Sonia asked with interest.

"I was thinking that I should give Mia a call to...."

"Definitely a bad idea. Let it go," Lucy said and Jade looked at Sonia hopefully.

"I agree with them. It's not a good idea," Sonia said and Jade frowned.

"The Sonia I knew would be on my side. What has happened to you, my sweet Sony?" Jade asked and Sonia grinned.

"I'm more surprised that you have been dating Harry for a while now and you still don't seem to know that doing something like that would rub him the wrong way. I'm sure you don't want any dramas before your vacation," Sonia said and Jade sighed.

"You're right. Fine. I will let it go," Jade said, slapping her temple dramatically to get rid of the thought.

"So? Did you resolve things with Bryan?" Lucy asked Sonia curiously.

"What? Was she fighting with Bryan?" Candace asked and Sonia sighed.

"No, we were not fighting. I hate to say that you girls were right. He was feeling upset. Thanks for insisting that I go talk to him," Sonia said and they all nodded.

"Sure. We are all literally here for you after all," Lucy said and Andy laughed.

"It's funny that you all seem to have one relationship drama or the other today...."

"I don't have any relationship drama. Tom and I are cool," Lucy said proudly.

"That's only because you both have had enough drama to last a lifetime," Sonia said and they all laughed.

"I can't wait to leave for my vacation with Harry next weekend," Jade said happily.

"Have you gotten all you need yet?" Sonia asked, since Jade had consulted them while trying to come up with a list of items she needed to take along with her on the vacation.

"No. Not yet. I will do that during the week. Which of you ladies is going to volunteer to go shopping with me?" Jade asked, looking at each of them.

"I would have offered, but I will be away on my honeymoon," Sonia said, and Jade nodded.

"Yeah. I know that. I was asking the others. By others I mean Candace and Andy, since I know Lucy can't leave the office during work hours to do that with me," Jade said, looking from Candace to Andy.

"Andy?" Jade asked hopefully and Andy giggled.

"If you were going to ask me all along why did you have to make it seem like I had a choice?" Andy asked and Jade grinned.

"Just to see if Candace will be willing to volunteer so I can turn her down," Jade said and Candace rolled her eyes while the others laughed.

"Let's finish up here and set the table. My soon-to-be husband is hungry," Sonia said and Jade mimicked her making everyone laugh as they rose to set the table.

Away from there, Amy who was busy trying to get her mind engaged on the movie she was seeing on her laptop, looked up when she heard a sound outside her door.

She frowned when she realized that someone was trying to open the door, and it didn't take long for her to figure out who it was.

"Amy! Amy! I know you are in there, open the door!" Malone called out angrily, and immediately Amy rose from her seat and drew back instinctively.

"AMY!" He yelled as he banged on the door while Amy picked up her phone as she contemplated calling the police.

"If you don't open this door I'm going to show up at your place of work tomorrow and you won't like what I'm going to do there," he threatened, and almost immediately Amy went to open the door.

"Did you really think you can hide from me? Where is my money? I know you have the money! Did you think I wouldn't figure out that Miley would have given you what was left of my money in case she died before the end of our deal? Do you think I'm going to let you steal my money?" He asked as he stepped into the house while Amy remained by the door as she shook her head.

"I don't know how you came about that idea, but Miley didn't give any money to me...."

"Why should I believe any word that comes from your lying mouth, you bitch!" Malone snapped at her.

"Malone, I have no business with you. Your business was with Miley and now that she is not here I suggest you stop bothering me, else I'm going to have to involve the police," Amy threatened indignantly and Malone laughter humorlessly.

"And tell them what when we both know you are carrying my baby...."

"No, I'm not. Thankfully the procedure didn't work, so I'm not carrying the child of a bastard like you. Now that you know we have nothing in common, can you please leave?" Amy asked angrily and Malone sneered at her.

"Perhaps it's for the best that you didn't get pregnant with a child carrying your friend's sick gene. I heard your friend say that you've never been with a man. I should do you the honor of planting my seed directly inside...."

Amy felt her skin crawl as he advanced, and without thinking about what she was doing, she ran out of the house and shut the door behind her.

"I'm not going to chase after you. I will be here waiting for you," Malone called after her loudly as he made himself at home.

Amy's heart raced as she ran as fast as her feet could carry her, not caring that Malone wasn't chasing after her. She just wanted to put as much distance as she could between them until she was able to figure out how to handle him.

Seeing as she had not heard from him since the last time he left her at the hotel to confront Miley's parents, she had thought he had forgotten about her and moved on, but it seemed like that was not the case and he was bent on being unreasonable.

After running for some time she came to a stop in front of a convenience and sat down by the seats in front of it to catch her breath.

Apart from Miley, the only other friend she had, lived too close to her apartment for comfort, and she didn't really want to tell her friend about what was going on with her. There was also every possibility that Miley might have mentioned her friend to Malone.

Seeing as she had left the house without money or her purse, she needed a place to spend the night before thinking of the next course of action to take since it was obvious that Malone was insane.

As she thought about it, the first name that came to mind was Lucy's, so she quickly dialed Lucy's line.

Lucy, who had just finished having dinner and was getting ready to retire to her bedroom so she could give Tom a call before Jade, Candace, and Andy would join her in her bedroom, picked up her phone when she saw she had a call.

She smiled thinking it was Tom, but raised a brow when she saw that it was Amy, and she quickly excused herself from the dining.

"Hey, Amy! Are you alright?" She asked, surprised to hear from Amy at that time of the night.

"No, I'm not. I'm really sorry to bother you, but Malone showed up at my place and I ran out because I was scared he was going to rape me. I can't think of anywhere else to go. Are you home? Can I come spend the night at your place, please?" Amy asked hopefully.

"Oh, dear! I'm not home, but you can go over to my place. I don't suppose you left the house with any cash for transport, did you?" Lucy asked with concern.

Although Lucy was curious to know what had happened and why Amy fled her own apartment thinking Malone wanted to rape her without bothering to call the police, she chose not to ask any questions until she got her to safety.

"No, I didn't. I'm sorry...."

"Quit being sorry. Give me a minute," Lucy said and returned to the dining, "Sonia, please I need you for a minute," Lucy called and Sonia excused herself from the others to join her.

"Do you think you could get across to Mia and Jeff and find out if she is with enough cash to help sort out Amy's cab fare? I will reimburse her tomorrow," Lucy said and even though Sonia wanted to ask what was going on, she nodded.

"Sure," Sonia said and went to get her phone to call Mia since she could tell from Lucy's tone that it was sort of urgent.

"You can head over to my apartment now. You will find the key on top of the right tyre of my car. Call me when you get there. I will make sure someone is waiting with money to pay." Lucy promised, thinking that if Mia and Jeff didn't have enough money on them, then she would give Alicia and Jasmine a call.

"Thank you so much, Lucy. I'm sorry...."

"Just get on a cab already," Lucy said and hung up.

"Mia says she has enough cash to pay for the cab," Sonia returned to say, and Lucy nodded, relieved that she wouldn't have to involve Alicia and Jasmine.

Chapter 784 Don't Scare Her

Instead of going back to Harry's, Tom drove them to their favorite lounge so they would hang out like they usually did in the past.

"So? What did Mia say?" Tom asked, wanting to know the outcome of Harry's discussion with Mia, since it had been their joint decision to help her.

"She is very scared. I think she would rather remain in hiding than face her husband and family again," Harry said and Tom sighed.

"Maybe she needs time. Until then we will wait. We can't help someone who isn't willing to be helped, can we?" Tom asked and Harry nodded as a waiter came to attend to them.

"While we wait, I will have someone look into her husband in the mean time to find any speck of dirt on him. We will need all the dirt we can find to make a mess of him," Harry said after the waiter had left with their order

"That's your area of expertise so I will leave it to you. But I have no doubt that finding dirt on him would be easy. Any man that can assault his wife to the point that she has to fake her own death in order to escape him, is trash," Tom said with disgust.

"You are right about that. By the way, did you hear from Philip?" Harry asked and Tom chuckled.

"I did. He called to inform me about his proposal. I can't believe he proposed to her already," Tom said and Harry grinned.

"He wants me to be his best man, since he met her thanks to me," Harry said and Tom nodded.

"Yeah. He asked me first to be sure it would be okay to ask you. Said he didn't want me to feel like you were cheating on me. I also agreed to be one of his groomsmen," Tom said and Harry laughed.

"That's cool. I'm proud of him. He reminded me that we were yet to hang out together as promised, and he suggested we do so before his wedding. I owe him that," Harry said and Tom shrugged.

"We can do that after you return from your vacation. Speaking of which...." Tom said and glanced at his phone when it started ringing.

He picked up his phone from the table and raised a brow when he couldn't recognize the number which was calling.

"Hel...."

"Hey, Tom! It's Lucas. Don't say anything yet. Lucy isn't close to you, is she?" Lucas said before Tom could say anything.

"Oh, Hey! No, she isn't. Why? And why are you calling from a local line? Are you in the country?" Tom asked curiously since the number which had called him wasn't a foreign line.

"You are quite observant. I just came in for Sony's wedding. I didn't tell them I would be coming. I wanted to surprise them all, so please keep it to yourself until they see me. I called to know if Lucy's apartment is available or if she is there at the moment. I wanted to be sure whether I should go to the hotel or go stay at her place," Lucas asked first, since he didn't want to ruin the surprise.

"No, no one is there. Lucy isn't here either. She is at Bryan's with Sonia. Why don't you come over to my place instead? I will have them prepare a room for you...."

"My parents mentioned that they will be at your place when they arrive tomorrow. In as much as I'm here to surprise them, I don't want to be around them all the time. I need my space. Also, I'm not alone," Lucas said and Tom raised a brow.

Even though he wanted to ask Lucas who his companion was, he didn't since it wasn't exactly his business and he could wait to see whoever it was the next day.

"Alright. You know where to find the spare key, right?" He asked and Lucas nodded.

"Sure. Thanks. Don't forget to keep this a secret," Lucas reminded him before hanging up.

"That was Lucas, Lucy's twin brother. He just came in for the wedding but doesn't want Lucy and the others to know he is around. He wants to surprise them," Tom informed Harry who was sipping on his glass of wine which had been served while Tom was on the phone.

"Oh, great! For a moment I thought it was one of your exes. You know, they just keep popping up," Harry joked, and chuckled when Tom glared at him.

"That's not funny," Tom said irritably as he picked up his own glass.

"Really? I thought it was," Harry said, still chuckling.

"I guess I will be meeting my second cousin soon. Interesting," Harry said and Tom sighed.

"Once again, I've forgotten that you're both related. Why do I keep forgetting?" Tom asked and Harry shrugged.

"Don't worry. I don't mind. I plan to keep reminding you that your girlfriend is my cousin," Harry said with a grin.

"It's not a big deal. Your girlfriend is my sister. And that reminds me of what ai was going to say before the call came in. How are you preparing for your vacation? You are still leaving next weekend, right? Have you settled on the day for the engagement? And how do you plan to propose?" Tom asked and Harry raised a brow.

"Why do you want to know my proposal plan? Do you want to steal it while I'm away and propose to Lucy?" He asked with mock suspicion and Tom laughed.

"As if you are more romantic than I am. I have a few proposal ideas I could share with you...."

"That's very kind of you. Save them for Lucy," Harry said and Tom smiled.

"Sure. I saved my best idea for Lucy. I'm still thinking about how to make it work at the Christmas party though," Tom said and Harry raised a brow.

"What is your plan? I'm always weary of your ideas because half the time they are crazy," Harry said and Tom chuckled.

"But you can't argue that my plans always work, can you? Crazy but effective," Tom said and Harry shook his head.

He really wished he could argue that, but unfortunately Tom was was right.

Tom picked up his phone when it started ringing again, "It's your cousin. My girlfriend," he said with a sweet smile before receiving the call.

"Hey, Jewel! I'm not home yet. I'm hanging out with Harry," Tom said immediately he received the call.

"That's not true. He's hanging out with another lady. My name is Harriella," Harry called in a tiny voice and Tom chuckled.

"You're such an idiot," Tom said while Lucy who had heard Harry also laughed.

"I guess I shouldn't bother you then. Let's talk when you get home," Lucy said, choosing to tell him about Amy being at her place later, since she didn't think it was a discussion to have with him when he was hanging out with Harry.

"I will call you when I get home. I love you," Tom said and Harry snorted when he blew her a kiss.

"I love you twice as much and more," Lucy said and kissed him back before hanging up, leaving Tom grinning from ear to ear.

"She just said she loves me twice as much and more," Tom said and Harry shook his head.

"And that's why you are blushing? What a fool she has turned you into," Harry said in amusement and Tom chuckled.

"A fool for love, full with love for my darling...."

"Oh, shut up!" Harry said with a chuckle.

Away from there, Amy who had just walked inside Lucy's apartment, turned on the lights and sighed as she shut the door behind her.

She was grateful that Mia who had come out to pay for the cab had not asked her any questions, especially why she was outside in a pajamas and fluffy indoor slippers like she had just stepped out of her bedroom for a sleepover next door.

Amy dialed Lucy's line to inform her that she was inside now, since Lucy had asked her to call back once again after she got inside the house.

"Are you inside now?" Lucy asked the moment she received the call.

"Yes, I am. I'm so sorry for the inconvenience...."

"You could take a shower or maybe a warm bath to calm yourself. You can check the right side of my closet for something to wear if you need to change out of your clothes. You will find something to eat in the refrigerator. Call me when you are settled," Lucy said since she was doing all these check ins to make sure Amy was fine and relaxed before asking her exactly what had happened and why she had not called the police.

"No, I'm alright. I had dinner already. I just need to go to bed now," Amy assured her.

"Are you sure? Do you want to tell me what happened now?" Lucy asked and Amy sighed as she went on to tell Lucy everything.

"I know it's too late to say this, but you shouldn't have opened the door to him. You should have let him come to the company to create a scene so he would be arrested! And you shouldn't have left your apartment to a lunatic like him. What if he carts off all you own? You should have called the police immediately. You should call the police right now," Lucy said and Amy sighed.

"I don't know what he might say if he comes to the company and I really don't want any dramas at my workplace...."

"I would have handled it for you. It's not too late to call the police now. You know what? I will do it if you can't. I will make an anonymous call to the police. I will inform them that you are my neighbor and I just saw someone strange breaking into your apartment when you're not there. That way, if anything goes missing, he will pay for it," Lucy said and Amy bit the nail of her right tiny finger as she thought about it.

"Are you sure that is a good idea? Do you think that is going to work?" Amy asked, unable to think straight at the moment since she was at her wit's end already.

"Yes. If the police calls you, you can tell them what happened and have them protect you from him. Also, you can stay at my place until he has been taken care of," Lucy said and Amy sighed.

"Alright. Thank you. Thank you very much, Lucy," Amy said, feeling really grateful that she had Lucy to rely on at the moment.

"I'm going to hang up now, and do the anonymous call. Call me if you need anything else," Lucy said before hanging up.

Amy sighed as she looked around the apartment which she had been to twice, yet she felt so completely lost standing there in that moment.

Tears gathered in her eyes as she went to sit on the couch, and she drew up her knees and hugged them to herself as she cried, seeking comfort even if it meant drawing it from herself.

She couldn't believe that her once perfectly calm life had been thrown into disarray all because she had been trying to be a good friend to her dying best friend.

Everything was a mess and she had no idea where or how to begin to fix it. Maybe she should have listened to Lucas and did all she could to dissuade Miley from her plans instead of encouraging her as she had done only to mess up her own life.

She knew she probably shouldn't be feeling so regretful when she had done everything with good intention for Miley, but of what use was her good intentions now when she was the one suffering the consequence of their wrong decision all alone. She knew that even Miley would feel sorry and regretful if she knew all that was going on.

She didn't know how long she sat there, but she raised her head when she heard a sound outside the door as though someone was trying to open the door with a key, and her first thought was that Malone had followed her there, but she shook her head.

It wasn't Malone. She knew he had not chased after her and he definitely wouldn't know she was at Lucy's place.

Perhaps it was Lucy coming to check on her? She mused as she rose and quietly listened since she could hear voices. Male voices.

"I thought you said he said she isn't here? Why does it seem like someone is inside? The light is on inside and it seems like the door is locked from inside," Amy heard someone say, and her heart skipped a beat.

Burglars? Did she come to Lucy's house on the night her house was to be broken into? Amy mused, cussing her bad luck, and without thinking she switched off the light.

"Let's leave then," Amy heard the other person say.

"Leave? No way! We are here already. Let's just make our presence known and go in before she goes to bed. She just turned off the lights," the first person said, and by now Amy's heart was beating loud enough for her to hear.

It seemed like the burglars were determined to break in. Well, it wasn't going to be on her watch. She might have run away from Malone leaving her house unprotected, she couldn't do the same to Lucy's house.

Amy quickly dimmed her eyes as she tried to find her way to the kitchen in the darkness since she remembered her way around the apartment from the time she had brought Lucy home and prepared breakfast for her.

Her heart was beating very fast as she turned on the front torchlight of her phone and used her hands to cover it so they wouldn't see the light but it would be enough for her to look around the kitchen.

The first weapon she saw was Lucy's nonstick frying pan and she picked it up and turned off the flashlight as she returned to the living room.

She almost jumped out of her skin when the men standing outside suddenly began to knock violently.

"Who is in there? Open up!" The first burglar said, and Amy rolled her eyes as she held the pan up.

Why would a burglar in his right senses expect her to open up? If he couldn't break in, shouldn't he just leave? She mused.

"Don't scare her. Lucy, we know you are in there, open up," the second burglar said and Amy cocked her head to the side at the familiar voice.

"Now you are ruining the surprise. You are no fun," the first burglar said and Amy frowned.

Surprise? What was going on.

"Maybe she has gone to bed. We should call her," Lucas suggested, and this time Amy realized whose voice it was and her heart skipped a beat.

Lucas?

chapter 785 Bothersome

785 Bothersome

Amy's mouth went dry at the realization that Lucas was standing outside.

Why? Why did he have to be here tonight of all nights? Amy mused, hating that Lucas would see her there.

Lucy didn't tell him anything about what was going on, did she? Amy mused, and then shook her head. Lucy had promised not to tell, and somehow she trusted Lucy.

Even though she would rather not open the door, after putting together the pieces of the conversation she had just heard, she could tell this was meant to be a surprise for Lucy, and she didn't want to ruin it, so she turned on the light and unlocked the door.

Lucas and Tyler who were just about to dial Lucy's line, looked up when the door suddenly opened.

"Lu... Amy?" Lucas asked, shocked to see Amy standing there.

"Surpr.... That's not Lucy," Tyler said at the same time as Lucas.

"Hi! No, I'm not Lucy. Lucy is not here, but she was kind enough to let me spend the night at her place," Amy said, looking at Tyler without meeting Lucas' gaze.

"Oh, hello! I'm Tyler. Lucy's friend and Lucas' best friend," Tyler said and Amy nodded.

"You're welcome. Do you want to come in?" Amy asked, still not looking at Lucas who was staring at her with a frown.

"I don't know about you Luke, but I want to go in. Thanks," Tyler said to Amy as she stepped aside to let him in.

"Our surprise isn't ruined after all," Tyler said to Lucas who said nothing to Amy as he walked in.

"So it seems," Lucas said even though he seemed to be the one who had been surprised.

Amy was the last person he expected to see even though he had thought a lot about her in the last couple of weeks and had been curious to know how she was coping with the ill treatment from Miley's family and if her and Miley had gone ahead with the surrogacy plan and if she was pregnant.

"We seem to have interrupted you in the process of making dinner," Tyler said, eyeing the frying pan in her hand and wondering why he wasn't perceiving anything.

"No, I wasn't making dinner. I was going to hit you with this. I thought you were burglars," Amy blurted out, and then couldn't help feeling foolish as the words left her mouth.

"Burglars?" Tyler asked with a chuckle as he glanced at Lucas, and then it occurred to him that Lucas was yet to say anything, and the lady was yet to talk to Lucas either, even though it seemed like they knew each other.

"Sorry, I just realized that I didn't catch your name," Tyler said, since he had not caught the name Lucas mentioned earlier.

"Amy. I'm Amy. Amy Grant. Lucy's friend. I'm her secretary too, but it's easier to say her friend so you wouldn't start wondering why she let her secretary sleep over at her place," Amy blabbered, feeling uncomfortable because of Lucas' presence.

"I think I need to use the restroom. Can you direct me?" Tyler said, feeling the need to leave those two alone now that he realized who Amy was.

Lucas had told him about Amy and Miley, but he only just remembered her because she said she was Lucy's secretary. He knew just how worried and conflicted Lucas had been in the last couple of weeks thinking whether or not he should get involved and speak up on behalf of Amy to Miley's family.

Amy directed Tyler to the restroom she had used the first time she was there, and once he left, Amy remained where she stood as did Lucas.

Neither of them said a word for some time and when the silence was becoming too awkward, Amy decided to speak.

"I'm sorry about last time...."

"How are you?" Amy and Lucas asked at the same time, and Amy looked at Lucas, surprised and confused by his question.

"What?" She asked with a frown.

"You seem like you were crying," Lucas said, since that was the second thing he observed when he looked at her.

"Oh! I'm fine. I was just watching an emotional clip on my phone. I'm alright. I'm here because my apartment sort of got flooded. I unknowingly left the tap on in the morning and the whole place got flooded. I had no place to go so I came here," Amy lied, thinking fast on her feet.

Lucas did not believe a word she had. He did not believe her one bit, but he was willing to let her get away with her lie, "Next time if you think burglars are breaking in, you should call the police first," Lucas said, eyeing the pan in her hands, she seemed to have a violent streak, Lucas mused as he remembered how she had attacked him on the road the last time too.

Lucas couldn't help but feel grateful that the door had been locked from inside. He couldn't imagine the kind of damage the pan could have done had they walked into the house not knowing she was

waiting for them with something like that. To think that Tyler had even suggested they pretend to be burglars to scare Lucy.

"I wouldn't have hit you with it had I known it was you," Amy said, as though she could read his mind, seeing how he was still staring at the pan.

"Of course, you wouldn't," Lucas murmured dryly.

"I'm sorry about what happened the last time," Amy said and Lucas raised a brow.

"What exactly are you sorry for?" He asked since he was no longer feeling as mad now as he had been then.

"For making such a selfish request. I should never have done that. I have no excuse for it. I'm sorry," Amy said and when Lucas merely stared at her without saying a word, she cleared her throat.

"Uhm, I should probably go drop this," Amy said and turned around to return to the kitchen while Lucas watched her, wondering what was really going on with her.

Did they chase her away from her house? And why did Lucy have to be so goddamned tightlipped about things? Why wouldn't she tell him if something was going on with Amy? Lucas mused, feeling frustrated by his concern for her and Miley.

Lucas stood in the parlor with his hands tucked in his pocket as he tried to make up his mind whether to ask her about Miley and see if she would confide in him about the situation or not.

Amy on the other hand stood in the kitchen after dropping the pan, and cursed herself for having the bad luck of getting into trouble with Malone just when Lucas was around.

Why couldn't they have met at a better time when she didn't have to lie and be such a blabbering fool?

And how did he notice that she had been crying anyway? She mused as she clicked on her phone's camera and raised her phone to her face to see how she looked so she could know exactly what Lucas had seen.

"I don't look so bad. How did he know I was crying?" She muttered to herself.

"You don't look bad at all," Tyler said from the doorway, making her jump since she had not noticed his presence.

"Do you know if there is any food in this place? I'm famished and I fear that I might die before any delivery person gets here with food," Tyler said, and Amy raised a brow.

"Are you indirectly asking me to fix you dinner?" She asked, and Tyler grinned.

"You caught me. I thought it would be best to ask indirectly so you don't wack my head with that. And just so you don't misunderstand me, I'm not asking for dinner because I think you are a lady and you should do the cooking. I don't mind cooking, but I'm really exhausted from the endless flight, and it's a miracle I'm still standing right now when I haven't had a decent sleep for over forty eight hours," Tyler said chattily while he used the time to look her over.

"Go get some rest. I will fix us something to eat and then we can leave for the hotel," Lucas said as he joined them.

Tyler opened his mouth to argue and remind Lucas that he was just as exhausted too and should get some rest, but on second thought decided to let Lucas do whatever he wanted.

"I'm not going to any hotel. We can move to the hotel tomorrow, but I'm not leaving the place this night. I'm dead on my feet already. You are going to have to drag my unconscious body out of here. I don't mind sleeping on the floor if I have to," Tyler said and returned to the living room, leaving Lucas and Amy alone.

"I will fix you both something to eat. You can go get some rest too," Amy suggested but Lucas said nothing as he looked at her.

"What?" Amy asked with a frown, wondering why he kept looking at her like he had something to say yet remained silent.

"Are you pregnant?" Lucas asked before he could stop himself.

Amy opened her mouth and then shut it, opened it again and then shut it so she could consider her response carefully.

"Why are you asking me that?" She asked with a frown.

"You look pale, you have circles under your eyes, you seem to have lost a lot of weight, and I'm curious if it's because you are pregnant or something else is responsible for it," Lucas said and Amy's frown deepened.

"Something else like what? And why are you curious about me?" Amy asked, choosing to avoid responding to his question.

"I don't know. You tell me," Lucas said and she frowned on confusion.

"Tell you what? Why you are curious about me or what?" She asked and Lucas couldn't help but be amused by her confusion.

"Well, if you have the answer to that, I would definitely like to know it," he said and she frowned, not getting what Lucas was up to or why he was suddenly being sort of friendly.

"How is Miley?" Lucas asked, changing the subject.

"Her health deteriorated so her parents flew her out of the country for treatment," Amy said easily.

"Oh, that's sad. Then I suppose you didn't go ahead with the surrogacy or getting her married as planned?" Lucas asked casually.

"No, we didn't. We decided to take your advise after all," Amy lied, and prayed that Lucy would never tell Lucas about Malone and everything else.

All she had to do was lie through this night, and by morning she will leave here and wouldn't have to face Lucas again after now.

"That's good. That means you are not pregnant," Lucas said and Amy frowned.

"We are back to that? Why do you seem concerned about that?" Amy asked, not understanding Lucas' sudden interest.

"Maybe it's the doctor in me. I don't like to see people looking so unhealthy. You look like you need to eat and you look ill," Lucas said and Amy resisted the urge to scowl at him.

"Thanks for your concern. Now will you let me fix you both something to eat, or do you want to do it yourself?" She asked, wanting to be left alone since he was making her feel uncomfortable.

"I will do it myself," Lucas said and she shrugged.

"Suit yourself then. I'm going to bed. Goodnight," Amy said and quickly headed for the door.

"Don't let Lucy know that I'm here," Lucas called after her as she left, and once she shut the bedroom door, Tyler who had heard their conversation from the living room went to join Lucas in the kitchen.

"Now that you know they didn't go along with their surrogacy plan, you can stop being worried about her," Tyler said from the doorway.

"I didn't believe anything else she said apart from the fact that Miley was flown out of the country, and that's only because we recommended the hospital to her family doctor," Lucas said and Tyler raised a brow.

"Why not?"

"I could tell she was lying. And the only reason she would lie is because she embarrassed. If they really took my advise as she said, she would have nothing to be embarrassed about," Lucas said reasonably.

"Do you still plan to see Miley's father before we return?" Tyler asked and he nodded.

"Yeah. I should clear the air with them on her behalf so I don't have to keep worrying about her. It's very bothersome and annoying," Lucas said before walking over to the refrigerator to find what he could use to fix dinner or maybe some leftovers he could heat up.

chapter 785 Bothersome

785 Bothersome

Amy's mouth went dry at the realization that Lucas was standing outside.

Why? Why did he have to be here tonight of all nights? Amy mused, hating that Lucas would see her there.

Lucy didn't tell him anything about what was going on, did she? Amy mused, and then shook her head. Lucy had promised not to tell, and somehow she trusted Lucy.

Even though she would rather not open the door, after putting together the pieces of the conversation she had just heard, she could tell this was meant to be a surprise for Lucy, and she didn't want to ruin it, so she turned on the light and unlocked the door.

Lucas and Tyler who were just about to dial Lucy's line, looked up when the door suddenly opened.

"Lu... Amy?" Lucas asked, shocked to see Amy standing there.

"Surpr.... That's not Lucy," Tyler said at the same time as Lucas.

"Hi! No, I'm not Lucy. Lucy is not here, but she was kind enough to let me spend the night at her place," Amy said, looking at Tyler without meeting Lucas' gaze.

"Oh, hello! I'm Tyler. Lucy's friend and Lucas' best friend," Tyler said and Amy nodded.

"You're welcome. Do you want to come in?" Amy asked, still not looking at Lucas who was staring at her with a frown.

"I don't know about you Luke, but I want to go in. Thanks," Tyler said to Amy as she stepped aside to let him in.

"Our surprise isn't ruined after all," Tyler said to Lucas who said nothing to Amy as he walked in.

"So it seems," Lucas said even though he seemed to be the one who had been surprised.

Amy was the last person he expected to see even though he had thought a lot about her in the last couple of weeks and had been curious to know how she was coping with the ill treatment from Miley's family and if her and Miley had gone ahead with the surrogacy plan and if she was pregnant.

"We seem to have interrupted you in the process of making dinner," Tyler said, eyeing the frying pan in her hand and wondering why he wasn't perceiving anything.

"No, I wasn't making dinner. I was going to hit you with this. I thought you were burglars," Amy blurted out, and then couldn't help feeling foolish as the words left her mouth.

"Burglars?" Tyler asked with a chuckle as he glanced at Lucas, and then it occurred to him that Lucas was yet to say anything, and the lady was yet to talk to Lucas either, even though it seemed like they knew each other.

"Sorry, I just realized that I didn't catch your name," Tyler said, since he had not caught the name Lucas mentioned earlier.

"Amy. I'm Amy. Amy Grant. Lucy's friend. I'm her secretary too, but it's easier to say her friend so you wouldn't start wondering why she let her secretary sleep over at her place," Amy blabbered, feeling uncomfortable because of Lucas' presence.

"I think I need to use the restroom. Can you direct me?" Tyler said, feeling the need to leave those two alone now that he realized who Amy was.

Lucas had told him about Amy and Miley, but he only just remembered her because she said she was Lucy's secretary. He knew just how worried and conflicted Lucas had been in the last couple of weeks thinking whether or not he should get involved and speak up on behalf of Amy to Miley's family.

Amy directed Tyler to the restroom she had used the first time she was there, and once he left, Amy remained where she stood as did Lucas.

Neither of them said a word for some time and when the silence was becoming too awkward, Amy decided to speak.

"I'm sorry about last time...."

"How are you?" Amy and Lucas asked at the same time, and Amy looked at Lucas, surprised and confused by his question.

"What?" She asked with a frown.

"You seem like you were crying," Lucas said, since that was the second thing he observed when he looked at her.

"Oh! I'm fine. I was just watching an emotional clip on my phone. I'm alright. I'm here because my apartment sort of got flooded. I unknowingly left the tap on in the morning and the whole place got flooded. I had no place to go so I came here," Amy lied, thinking fast on her feet.

Lucas did not believe a word she had. He did not believe her one bit, but he was willing to let her get away with her lie, "Next time if you think burglars are breaking in, you should call the police first," Lucas said, eyeing the pan in her hands, she seemed to have a violent streak, Lucas mused as he remembered how she had attacked him on the road the last time too.

Lucas couldn't help but feel grateful that the door had been locked from inside. He couldn't imagine the kind of damage the pan could have done had they walked into the house not knowing she was waiting for them with something like that. To think that Tyler had even suggested they pretend to be burglars to scare Lucy.

"I wouldn't have hit you with it had I known it was you," Amy said, as though she could read his mind, seeing how he was still staring at the pan.

"Of course, you wouldn't," Lucas murmured dryly.

"I'm sorry about what happened the last time," Amy said and Lucas raised a brow.

"What exactly are you sorry for?" He asked since he was no longer feeling as mad now as he had been then.

"For making such a selfish request. I should never have done that. I have no excuse for it. I'm sorry," Amy said and when Lucas merely stared at her without saying a word, she cleared her throat.

"Uhm, I should probably go drop this," Amy said and turned around to return to the kitchen while Lucas watched her, wondering what was really going on with her.

Did they chase her away from her house? And why did Lucy have to be so goddamned tightlipped about things? Why wouldn't she tell him if something was going on with Amy? Lucas mused, feeling frustrated by his concern for her and Miley.

Lucas stood in the parlor with his hands tucked in his pocket as he tried to make up his mind whether to ask her about Miley and see if she would confide in him about the situation or not.

Amy on the other hand stood in the kitchen after dropping the pan, and cursed herself for having the bad luck of getting into trouble with Malone just when Lucas was around.

Why couldn't they have met at a better time when she didn't have to lie and be such a blabbering fool?

And how did he notice that she had been crying anyway? She mused as she clicked on her phone's camera and raised her phone to her face to see how she looked so she could know exactly what Lucas had seen.

"I don't look so bad. How did he know I was crying?" She muttered to herself.

"You don't look bad at all," Tyler said from the doorway, making her jump since she had not noticed his presence.

"Do you know if there is any food in this place? I'm famished and I fear that I might die before any delivery person gets here with food," Tyler said, and Amy raised a brow.

"Are you indirectly asking me to fix you dinner?" She asked, and Tyler grinned.

"You caught me. I thought it would be best to ask indirectly so you don't wack my head with that. And just so you don't misunderstand me, I'm not asking for dinner because I think you are a lady and you should do the cooking. I don't mind cooking, but I'm really exhausted from the endless flight, and it's a miracle I'm still standing right now when I haven't had a decent sleep for over forty eight hours," Tyler said chattily while he used the time to look her over.

"Go get some rest. I will fix us something to eat and then we can leave for the hotel," Lucas said as he joined them.

Tyler opened his mouth to argue and remind Lucas that he was just as exhausted too and should get some rest, but on second thought decided to let Lucas do whatever he wanted.

"I'm not going to any hotel. We can move to the hotel tomorrow, but I'm not leaving the place this night. I'm dead on my feet already. You are going to have to drag my unconscious body out of here. I don't mind sleeping on the floor if I have to," Tyler said and returned to the living room, leaving Lucas and Amy alone.

"I will fix you both something to eat. You can go get some rest too," Amy suggested but Lucas said nothing as he looked at her.

"What?" Amy asked with a frown, wondering why he kept looking at her like he had something to say yet remained silent.

"Are you pregnant?" Lucas asked before he could stop himself.

Amy opened her mouth and then shut it, opened it again and then shut it so she could consider her response carefully.

"Why are you asking me that?" She asked with a frown.

"You look pale, you have circles under your eyes, you seem to have lost a lot of weight, and I'm curious if it's because you are pregnant or something else is responsible for it," Lucas said and Amy's frown deepened.

"Something else like what? And why are you curious about me?" Amy asked, choosing to avoid responding to his question.

"I don't know. You tell me," Lucas said and she frowned on confusion.

"Tell you what? Why you are curious about me or what?" She asked and Lucas couldn't help but be amused by her confusion.

"Well, if you have the answer to that, I would definitely like to know it," he said and she frowned, not getting what Lucas was up to or why he was suddenly being sort of friendly.

"How is Miley?" Lucas asked, changing the subject.

"Her health deteriorated so her parents flew her out of the country for treatment," Amy said easily.

"Oh, that's sad. Then I suppose you didn't go ahead with the surrogacy or getting her married as planned?" Lucas asked casually.

"No, we didn't. We decided to take your advise after all," Amy lied, and prayed that Lucy would never tell Lucas about Malone and everything else.

All she had to do was lie through this night, and by morning she will leave here and wouldn't have to face Lucas again after now.

"That's good. That means you are not pregnant," Lucas said and Amy frowned.

"We are back to that? Why do you seem concerned about that?" Amy asked, not understanding Lucas' sudden interest.

"Maybe it's the doctor in me. I don't like to see people looking so unhealthy. You look like you need to eat and you look ill," Lucas said and Amy resisted the urge to scowl at him.

"Thanks for your concern. Now will you let me fix you both something to eat, or do you want to do it yourself?" She asked, wanting to be left alone since he was making her feel uncomfortable.

"I will do it myself," Lucas said and she shrugged.

"Suit yourself then. I'm going to bed. Goodnight," Amy said and quickly headed for the door.

"Don't let Lucy know that I'm here," Lucas called after her as she left, and once she shut the bedroom door, Tyler who had heard their conversation from the living room went to join Lucas in the kitchen.

"Now that you know they didn't go along with their surrogacy plan, you can stop being worried about her," Tyler said from the doorway.

"I didn't believe anything else she said apart from the fact that Miley was flown out of the country, and that's only because we recommended the hospital to her family doctor," Lucas said and Tyler raised a brow.

"Why not?"

"I could tell she was lying. And the only reason she would lie is because she embarrassed. If they really took my advise as she said, she would have nothing to be embarrassed about," Lucas said reasonably.

"Do you still plan to see Miley's father before we return?" Tyler asked and he nodded.

"Yeah. I should clear the air with them on her behalf so I don't have to keep worrying about her. It's very bothersome and annoying," Lucas said before walking over to the refrigerator to find what he could use to fix dinner or maybe some leftovers he could heat up.

Chapter 786 Cousin?

786 Cousin?

After everyone retired to their bedrooms, with Candace sharing the bedroom with Matt, and Andy sharing a bedroom with Jade, who had insisted that Andy stay with her instead of with Lucy since they were going to be sisters-in-law soon and needed to get to know each other better.

Alone in her bedroom, Lucy decided to surf the net while waiting for Tom to get home and call her.

She searched for fun games they could play at the joint bachelor bachelorette party they had all agreed on during dinner.

She raised a brow when her phone started ringing with a call from Alicia, and she couldn't help wondering why Alicia was calling her by that time of the night.

She received the call immediately, "Hello, Alicia!" She greeted pleasantly.

"Hey, Lucy! I'm sorry to bother you at this hour, but I thought I should let you know that there are some people in your house," Alicia said, while Jasmine rolled her eyes in exasperation, wondering why Alicia always loved to do such embarrassing things.

"People? Amy is the only one in my apartment. I let her stay there for the night...."

"I suppose that's the lady I saw earlier. But she isn't the only one there. I saw two men go in a while ago."

Lucy's heart skipped at that, "Two men?" She asked with a frown.

Was it possible that Malone had followed her there and was causing trouble for her? Although Lucy had placed an anonymous call to the police, she didn't know if they had gone over to Amy's to handle the situation.

"Yes. And they are yet to come out. I wasn't sure what was going on so I thought I should give you a call to let you know," Alicia explained.

"Alright. Thanks for the information. I will give Amy a call to find out if everything is alright," Lucy said before hanging up.

Immediately, Lucy dialed Amy's line, and Amy who had been in the kitchen conversing with Lucas, walked away to receive her call.

"Amy? Is everything alright over there?" Lucy asked with concern even though she was quite relieved that Amy had received her call.

She had planned to have Mia and Jeff go over to her place to check on Amy if she didn't get any response.

"Yes. Sure. I was just about to go to bed," Amy said, and Lucy raised a brow.

"Did you receive any visitors?" She asked, and Amy opened her mouth to say no, but thought better of it since she could tell that Lucy had a reason for asking and she didn't want to be caught lying to Lucy who was only trying to help her.

Did someone notify Lucy of the presence of Lucas and his best friend? How could she explain the presence of strange men in Lucy's house without giving away Lucas' surprise plan?

Seeing how she was silent, Lucy could tell it was true but that Amy didn't want to talk about. Was she being silent because Malone was probably threatening her to not say anything, or was it because she just didn't want to tell her who the visitors were? Lucy mused.

"Is someone there with you? Probably threatening to hurt you if you say anything? Should I send for help?" Lucy asked, worried by Amy's silence.

Amy giggled involuntarily at Lucy's overactive imagination, "No. Not at all. I'm fine. That's not the reason I'm not saying anything. Yes, I have some guests but no one is threatening me," Amy managed to say.

"I'm not sure I believe you. I'm going to send Jeff and Mia over...."

"Trust me, Lucy. None of that is necessary," Amy assured her.

"Listen, as long you are sure it's not Malone and you are safe, you don't have to tell me who your guests are if you don't want to. I only wanted to be sure you are fine. And in case it's Malone, you should let him know that my neighbors saw him and his pal going in and can easily identify them if the need arises. So, they had better not try anything silly," Lucy threatened and Amy smiled.

"Thanks, Lucy. I assure you there is nothing for you to worry about. I'm perfectly safe and going to bed now," Amy said and Lucy raised a brow.

"Does that mean they are spending the night there? Or are they leaving now?" Lucy asked feeling even more suspicious now.

"Yes, they will be spending the night, but they will be in the living room. I think I will sleep better with them in the house with me," Amy said and Lucy sighed even though she still wasn't exactly convinced yet,

"Alright then. Try to get some rest. By the way, I called the police as I said I would. Have you heard from them yet?" Lucy asked hopefully.

"No. But I plan to go to the police station to make a report before going to the office in the morning," Amy said and Lucy nodded.

"Alright then. Let's talk in the morning. Have a good night's rest," Lucy said, deciding to ask Sonia to send Mia or Jeff over to find out if Amy was truly fine and safe as she claims.

"You won't tell Lucas about any of this, right? I mean about Malone," Amy asked before Lucy could hang up, since she knew that Lucas would most likely ask Lucy about it when they meet, Lucy might be tempted to tell him.

"For as long as you want me to keep it to myself, your secret is safe with me," Lucy promised before ending the call.

Amy could tell that Lucy still wasn't convinced about her safety, so she decided to go inform the visiting duo that Lucy was aware of their presence in the house.

As she stepped out of the bedroom, she heard Tyler and Lucas discussing in the kitchen and she paused so she could listen in on their conversation to see if they were talking about her before making her presence known to them.

She smiled when she heard Tyler talking about how he couldn't wait to see the surprise on Lucy's face when she sees him at the wedding.

"I'm afraid your surprise may be at jeopardy," Amy said as she joined them, and Lucas raised a brow.

"You didn't tell Lucy that we are here, did you?" He asked with a frown since he had clearly asked her not to mention it.

"Seeing the scowl on your face, I wish I did," Amy said with a scowl of her own before directing her attention away from Lucas to Tyler.

"I suspect one of the neighbors saw you come in, and called to report your presence to Lucy. I couldn't give her any explanation so I believe she is worried I'm in danger and might send someone to check on me soon," Amy said and before Lucas could ask her why Lucy might think she was in danger, the doorbell rang and she shrugged.

"Told you. One of you will have to get the door. You preferably," Amy said referring to Tyler.

"Apart from the fact that no one might know who you are, you seem much more pleasant," Amy said, and Tyler chuckled while Lucas scoffed.

"Weren't you seeking my forgiveness a moment ago? Is it always in your character to apologize one minute and seek to annoy me the next?" Lucas asked, since she had done the same thing the last time at her apartment.

"I wasn't trying to annoy you. I was merely stating a fact. Now will either of you come with me to the door or will you rather Lucy calls the police?" She asked pleasantly, and Tyler grinned at Lucas before gesturing to Amy to lead the way.

"Facts indeed," Lucas muttered as he returned his attention to preparing dinner.

Amy opened the door with a pleasant smile on her face to see Jeff and Mia standing outside together, "Sorry to bother you, we thought you might be in need of company and decided to come over," Mia said with a pleasant smile as she raised a bottle of wine which she had brought with her as a weapon in case Amy was in danger.

As much as Amy would have loved to send them away so she could retire for the night, she knew that they would become even more suspicious if she did that.

"Oh! I didn't realize you had company," Mia said as she sent Tyler a pleasant smile, and he smiled back at her.

"Oh, yes! My cousin. He just came into the country tonight and since I was crashing here, I asked him and his best friend to come over," Amy said, not bothering to say Tyler's name.

Cousin? Mia mused as she gave him a once-over. He didn't seem like a dangerous person, but then again, she knew how deceptive looks could be. Her abusive husband also looked very gentlemanly but was a beast behind closed doors.

"Hi! I'm Mia, and this is my boyfriend, Jeff," Mia said, and Jeff frowned as he looked at her, wondering where that had come from.

She was doing too much. What did she think this was? An action movie? Jeff mused.

Seeing how Jeff wasn't saying anything, Mia pinched him as she passed her arm around him to hold his waist, "You don't mind us coming in, do you?" Mia asked hopefully since she was yet to see the other guy Sonia had mentioned was in the house. He might be the dangerous one for all she knew.

"Not at all. Please come in," Amy said as she held out the door to them.

She knew Lucy had most likely sent them, and to put Lucy's mind at ease, she was going to let them in and leave it up to Lucas to figure out a way to keep his presence a secret from Lucy.

While they were talking, Tyler struggled not to stare too hard at Mia even though he was quite amazed by how familiar she looked.

As Mia and Jeff walked in, they looked around the apartment and noticed that nothing seemed out of order and then they perceived the aroma coming from the kitchen and heard Lucas moving about.

This definitely didn't seem like anyone was in danger, unless they planned to have dinner before harming Amy. Maybe something like the biblical last supper, Mia thought.

"I'm sorry we intruded this way. We didn't realize you were fixing dinner," Jeff said not missing the fact that Amy seemed very relaxed and in control.

"I was actually on my way to bed. The guys were fixing dinner for themselves since they just arrived," Amy explained calmly while Tyler sat on the couch and picked up his backpack.

Following his movement, Mia's gaze fell on the duffle bags beside the couch and she decided that it was either Amy was telling the truth about her cousin and his friend just getting into the county and coming to spend the night with her, or the guys had brought the bags to take away pieces of her body after butchering her up.

She decided it was the former when Tyler took out his towel and some clothes from his bag, "I'm sorry, I'm sort of uncomfortable. I need to pop into the shower," Tyler said and walked away.

Of course, if Amy was in trouble there was no way the guys would let her be alone with them this way, Jeff and Mia reasoned.

"I guess you're fine?" Mia whispered and Amy smiled.

"You can let Lucy know that there is nothing to worry about," Amy assured them and they nodded.

"I guess we can leave you then. You can have this. I brought it with me in case I needed to smash their head," Mia said, making a gesture with the bottle of wine as though she wanted to hit someone.

"Thanks," Amy said with a smile of gratitude as she took the bottle from Mia and led them to the door.

The moment the door closed behind them, Amy sighed, glad that she hadn't ruined Tyler's surprise.

"Did something happen to you? Why is Lucy so concerned about you? And why are you really here instead of your apartment?" Lucas asked curiously from the doorway of the kitchen.

"What you meant to say was 'thank you for covering for us' right? You're welcome," Amy said with a sweet smile as she headed for the bedroom.

Lucas didn't bother to stop her as she left. He could tell she was acting that way only to avoid his questions. What was it to him if she didn't want to share her personal problems with him? She was free to do whatever she liked, Lucas thought as he returned to the kitchen.

Amy on the other hand sighed as she walked into the bedroom and shut the door. She knew she was being unnecessarily rude to him, but she couldn't help it.

If she so much as acted in a polite or friendly manner towards him, she would have to answer his questions and she didn't want to. Her pride wouldn't let her tell him that she was in a mess because she had failed to heed his advise.

Chapter 787 You Should Come

787 You Should Come

Lucy was already beginning to doze off when Sonia texted to let her know that Mia and Jeff had checked on Amy, and the guys with her were her cousin and his friend who just came into the country.

Why didn't Amy simply tell her that? Lucy mused. But then again, had Amy said so, she probably wouldn't have believed her. Having been abducted once herself, she had been scared that Amy might be in that situation but too scared for her life to come out straight and ask for help.

Before she could spend more time dwelling on it, Tom's video call came in and she smiled as she received it, "You finally called. I had almost given up and was about to go to sleep," Lucy said with a yawn.

"I'm sorry. I sort of lost track of time. So? What's going on over there?" Tom asked curiously.

"Nothing much. Everyone else retired to their bedrooms a while ago and I was alone in mine waiting for my boyfriend to call but apparently he was having too much fun with his best friend to call me," Lucy said and Tom grinned.

"That's what happens when you choose to stay with your best friend over staying with your boyfriend," he said and she scowled.

"Need I remind you that that best friend happens to be your soon-to-be sister in-law?"

"Need I remind you that that best friend happens to be your cousin?" Tom retorted and Lucy grinned.

"Alright. Fine. Let's call a truce," she said and Tom chuckled..

"That's my smart girlfriend. She knows when to give up...."

"I didn't give up," Lucy cut in, and Tom chuckled.

"Alright. I give up on your behalf," he said with a wink and she giggled.

"By the way, I called earlier to let you know that Amy is sleeping over at my apartment," Lucy said and Tom raised a brow.

"Amy? Why?" He asked with a frown, wondering if Lucas had gotten there already and met her there.

"She got attacked at her place," Lucy said and went on to explain the situation with Malone to Tom.

"And then Alicia called to inform me that two guys showed up there," Lucy said and Tom resisted the urge to scowl since he knew the two guys were most likely Lucas and the companion he spoke about.

It seemed like Alicia was the neighborhood's watchdog. Nothing seemed to get past her. As much as he liked that she looked out for Lucy, he wished she could mind her business at times.

"I was really worried about it thinking he followed her there, but Mia and Jeff went over to confirm and it turned out they were Amy's cousin and friend who just got into the country," Lucy explained.

Amy's cousin indeed, Tom thought with a chuckle which he concealed behind a cough.

"Well, I'm glad she is safe. It's a good thing she plans to go to the police tomorrow. Ask her for his photograph if she has any, and I will ask the security at the company to have him arrested if he shows his face anywhere around the company," Tom said and Lucy smiled.

"Sure. I will do that in the morning. Thanks. Also, during dinner we all agreed to have a joint bachelor bachelorette party. I'm sure Bryan will tell you about it tomorrow," Lucy said with a yawn and Tom smiled, pleased with the idea of spending the night with Lucy.

"Does that mean the party won't hold on the yacht as planned?" Tom asked thoughtfully.

"It will. But it won't be late in the night since there won't be enough room for everyone and Sonia needs to get a good night's rest for Saturday," Lucy said and Tom scowled, when he realized he was still not going to spend the night with her.

"What was the reason for the change of plans?"

"We figured it would be more fun that way. We can all throw our questions at the couple and also play fun games together. It should help Sonia be more excited about her big day and remind her of her love for Bryan," Lucy said and yawned again.

"It's a good idea. I like it," Tom said with approval.

"I guess we should go to bed now," Tom said since he could see that Lucy was struggling to keep her eyes open.

"Did I wait up for this long just so we can speak for two minutes?" She asked with a scowl and Tom chuckled when she tried unsuccessfully to stifle yet another yawn.

"I thought you were exhausted and would want to rest your head. Tomorrow and the day after is going to be very busy for you," Tom reminded her.

"I guess you are right. Still, I don't want to hang up just yet. So, how about you tell me how your hangout with Harry went," Lucy said, and Tom smiled as he told her about it.

"Were there ladies there? Did any look at you funny?" Lucy asked and Tom grinned.

"I didn't notice cause I wasn't looking at anyone," Tom said and Lucy smiled, pleased with his response.

"That's a very brilliant response. That's how it ought to be," she said with a yawn.

"You should go to bed now, love. You're exhausted," Tom said and Lucy shook her head.

"Tell me a story or sing me a song to put me to sleep if you want me to go to bed," Lucy said as she adjusted her pillow.

"Alright. I will sing for you," Tom said and went ahead to sing her a lullaby.

Halfway into it, Lucy slept off and Tom smiled as he hung up the call.

He decided to give Lucas a call to find out if he was still at Lucy's, and to explain that he had no idea that Amy was there.

Lucas, who was having dinner with Tyler, received Tom's call the moment it came in, "Hey! I guess you just found out Lucy was housing her secretary here," Lucas said, guessing that was why he called.

"Yes. I'm sorry about that. I guess you're passing the night over there?" He asked since Lucy had mentioned that Amy said they would be sleeping in the living room.

"Yes. Do you know how long Amy will be here? Or why she is here?" Lucas asked curiously.

"She got into trouble with some guy she had an unfortunate business with, so she needed a place to spend the night since he showed up at her apartment to harass her," Tom explained innocently, not realizing that Amy had asked Lucy to keep that information away from Lucas.

"What sort of business? This has nothing to do with her best friend, does it?" Lucas asked curiously.

"Oh, yes! Lucy did mention that they asked you to be the sperm donor. I guess she didn't give you the follow up story. Well, the guy in question happens to be the one they got for the job. But since everything fell through due to the best friend's condition, he keeps harassing her," Tom said and Lucas frowned.

What sort of psycho did they get involved with? And why wasn't Amy involving the police already? He mused.

"Say hello to Lucy's soon-to-be ex boyfriend on my behalf," Tyler said with a wink at Lucas who grinned.

"That's the guy that never succeeded in breaking out of Lucy's friendzone, I suppose," Tom asked and Lucas chuckled.

"Yeah. The friend-zone guy says hello," Lucas said for Tyler's benefit since it was obvious Tom had heard Tyler in the background.

"Say hello to him too. You should advise him to tread carefully in my territory and I don't want to see his shadow anywhere close to Lucy," Tom warned and Lucas chuckled.

"I'm afraid you will have to tell him that yourself when you see him at the wedding."

"By the way, what are your plans for tomorrow? You don't intend to wait until the wedding day to make your presence known, do you? Tomorrow night is the bachelor and bachelorette party. You should come," Tom said and Lucas raised a brow.

"Are they having both parties together?"

"Yes. I will text you the details and you both can show up there," Tom said and they hung up the call after Lucas agreed to show up at the party.

"Do you know anything about Lucy's neighbor? I mean the lady," Tyler asked the question he had been wanting to ask Lucas before Tom's call came in.

"No. I don't know the ones that came in earlier. Although their names sounded very familiar. I think they work for Bryan," Lucas said, since he remembered their names being mentioned during Bryan and Sonia's scandal the last time he was around.

"Why do you ask?" Lucas asked and Tyler shrugged.

"She looks very much like someone I used to know. I didn't exactly know her directly, but she was close to a colleague of mine and I used to see her at the hospital often until I heard of her death," Tyler said and Lucas shrugged.

"Well, people have doppelg?ngers all the time," Lucas said and Tyler nodded.

"That's true. So, what did Tom say anyway?" Tyler asked, changing the subject.

The next morning, Amy tried to move around the house as stealthily as she could so as not to rouse Lucas and Tyler who were fast asleep in the living room. She wanted to be long gone before they wake up.

As she stepped out of the bedroom, ready to return to her apartment so she could go get ready for work, she was startled to see Lucas seated on the couch like he was waiting for her.

"Good morning. Did you rest well?" Lucas asked and she tried to hide her displeasure as she flashed him a smile.

"Good morning. Why are you up already?" She asked and he shrugged.

"I was waiting up for you. I thought you might want to leave very early in the morning so I wanted us to talk first," Lucas said and her frown deepened.

She had not expected him to admit that and neither had she expected him to wait up for her.

"What do you want to talk about?" She asked, and he shrugged.

"A number of things. But first, why don't I drive you home?" He offered and she shook her head.

"No, you don't have to...."

"If Lucy knew I were here, she would have wanted me to do that considering how worried she must have been to send the neighbors over," Lucas said but Amy shook her head.

"You should get some rest. You really don't have to go to such lengths for my sake," she assured him.

"I'm aware that I don't have to. But I want to. And I will give you my reasons. One, I want us to talk on the way so I can save your time. I'm sure you don't want to be late for work. Two, you are not properly dressed to step out and I doubt you have any money on you for a cab. I don't believe that anyone who would leave their apartment dressed this way remembered to take money along. And finally, I don't buy your story about a flood or whatever you said it was. My conscience won't let me be if I don't go with you and make sure it's safe. I tend to worry about others a lot. It's my major flaw," Lucas explained and even though Amy wanted to argue some more, she decided not to.

She had planned to go ask Mia to lend her some money to take a cab, but having Lucas offer to drive, seemed like a better option even though she didn't want to be alone with him.

"Alright. Let's go," Amy said after staring at him on silence for some time.

"I will get the car key and then we can leave," Lucas said as he went into Lucy's bedroom to get the key from the spot he knew she usually kept it.

Lucas didn't bother to disturb Tyler's sleep since he had a fair idea on how exhausted Tyler was.

Chapter 788 Brat

788 Brat

Once Lucas and Amy got into the car, Amy was silent as she tried to figure out what Lucas wanted to say to her and why he was going through that much trouble for her sake.

Although she had initially planned to go directly to the police station so they would accompany back home in case Malone was still there, but now that Lucas was going with her, her plan had changed.

She didn't want Lucas finding out about her trouble with Malone.

Lucas on the other hand didn't say anything immediately and just drove in silence. He wanted to arouse her curiosity enough for her to ask him to speak.

From his experience as a medical doctor, he knew very well how much people hated the suspense that grating silence brought.

Impressively, Amy was able to hold out for fifteen minutes before she finally gave in to her curiosity, "I thought you said you had something to say. Are you going to speak or not?" She asked, making his lips twitch in amusement.

"I thought you'd never ask," Lucas said and she frowned.

"Is this some sort of game or what?"

"No. It's not a game. I'm just trying to make sure you will be interested enough in whatever I have to say to listen. You didn't seem like you were willing to listen last night," Lucas said and she rolled her eyes.

"I listened quite alright, and if you want to talk about the same thing...."

"I know the truth about Miley's condition and what her parents think of you," Lucas stated, cutting off whatever else she wanted to say, since he knew that if he didn't make that clear she was going to resume with her lies.

Amy frowned, "Did Lucy...."

"No. It wasn't Lucy. I knew about it even before traveling down. I can't tell if Miley mentioned it to you, but I used to be a doctor at her family hospital, so I'm very well acquainted with Doctor Drew," Lucas said easily.

"If you were aware of the situation of things, why did you ask me those questions?" She asked in a tight voice, annoyed that he had known she was lying.

"Because I wanted to hear from you directly...."

"Hear what? Are you trying to find out if truly I tried to scam Miley? After all you once accused me of something similar " Amy said, and Lucas raised a brow.

"Don't tell me you are still pissed about that after everything? Need I remind you that after I said that you not only emptied your glass of water on me, you attacked me violently when I came to apologize to you and then made your ridiculous proposition...."

"Is that the point right now? Do you really have to bring all of that up? I merely asked a question," Amy cut in.

"You brought up the past not me. If you didn't want us talking about it, you shouldn't have brought it up. My point is, if I could forgive all you did and not dwell on it, you have no right to bring up something I already apologized for," Lucas said simply and Amy sighed.

"You're right. I'm sorry," she said and Lucas raised a brow since he hadn't expected the admission or apology.

"Apology accepted. Listen, I know it's probably none of my business, but can you tell me exactly what happened?" Lucas asked, since he needed to know the details if he was going to talk to Miley's family.

"You know what happened already. We interviewed a couple of guys. Miley chose one of them. We went on with the whole medical procedure...."

"Medical procedure? Does that mean you are pregnant?" Lucas asked with a frown and Amy scowled at him.

"Why do you keep asking me that when I already told you I'm not?" She asked irritably.

As tempted as he was to tell her how foolish it had been to run out of her apartment leaving a person of questionable character alone in her home, Lucas chose not to hurt her pride any more than was necessary.

"....Although I never really like him personally, I never would have guessed that he was this sort of person," Amy finished.

"You guys did a good job of picking a scum. If I may ask, what was the criteria for the selection?"

Amy shrugged, "Miley said he looked handsome and decent and his résumé looked good too."

"People date their partners for years and can't guess what they are capable of, yet you both thought you could pick someone to play fiancé and tell the sort of person they are by looking at their appearance and résumé?" Lucas asked incredulously, and as much as Amy was tempted to pick offense, she knew he was right.

And she could also not help but wonder if he was referring to himself and his past relationship since Miley had told her about Rachel.

"Well, we learn everyday, and now I guess I'm paying for my ignorance," Amy said as she eyed her apartment door, wondering whether or not Malone was still inside.

"Why haven't you reported him to the police yet?" Lucas asked curiously.

"I plan to do so this morning before leaving for the office," Amy said and Lucas nodded.

"Good. I'm sure you don't want to be late for work. Go inside and get dressed. I will accompany you and then drop you off at the office," he offered but Amy shook her head.

"...."

"I know I don't have to," he said the moment she opened her mouth to speak, knowing that was what she wanted to say.

"Let's not argue about it. Save my time and yours," Lucas said, and Amy frowned.

"Why are you doing this?" She asked, and he shrugged.

"I will answer your question after you get back," Lucas said, and Amy eyed her door, reluctant to go in.

As if sensing her fear, Lucas got out of the car and headed for the door, leaving her to go after him since she had no idea what he was up to.

Lucas tried to unlock her door, and when it didn't open, Amy checked under the doormat for her spare key and she took it out and handed it to Lucas who held out a hand to her.

Lucas opened the door and stepped in before Amy to be sure the apartment was empty, and as he walked in, he remembered the last time he had been there and how angry he had been when he left.

He never would have thought he would come back here for any reason, yet here he was no thanks to his folly and inability to stay out of the problem of other people.

"The place is empty," Lucas announced to Amy, who was already picking up a note which was left on her table.

[I will be back. For your sake I hope you will have my money ready when I get back, else there will be hell to pay.]

"Let me see that," Lucas said when he saw the frown on Amy's face, and he took it from her.

Lucas read through the short note before looking at Amy, "Go get dressed. We will take the note with us to the police station, and a copy of the contract Miley signed with him, if you have it. You will have to change the lock to your apartment. And maybe you can pick a few of your things and keep staying at Lucy's for the time being. Tyler and I will move to the hotel so you can have the place to yourself," Lucas said, and Amy frowned.

"Thanks, but...."

"We can argue about it in the car. Go get dressed. I will be waiting in the car. Unlike me, the time isn't waiting for you," Lucas said before walking out of the apartment with the note.

Chapter 789 Very Likeable

It wasn't every time that Amy had a hard time picking out what to wear to the office, but this morning, she had a hard time doing so.

No matter what she picked out, it wasn't good enough, and she didn't want to admit that her inability to pick out the right office wear might be tied to a certain young man who was waiting in the car outside.

After going at it for over twenty minutes, she finally settled for a blue two pieces pencil skirt suit which she had never worn to the office. Miley had forced her into getting it during one of their vacations together, so it was only right that she wore it now.

The pencil skirt which was slightly above her knees had two tiny slits in front of both thighs, and the jacket had a little V-neck, exposing a little cleavage.

As she looked at her reflection in the mirror, she wondered if she wasn't a bit overdressed. She didn't want Lucas to think she was dressed this way to impress him.

She wasn't. She was just seizing this opportunity to wear something nice to the office.

"Amy, you're overthinking and wasting time," Amy told herself.

It wasn't like Lucas would know that she usually didn't dress this way to the office. He had never seen her at the office after all, Amy reminded herself.

She couldn't help but wonder what Miley would think or say if she found out that she was with Lucas right now and was wearing the sexy suit she had pressured her into buying.

Miley would probably laugh happily and say something silly, Amy thought with a sad smile as she remembered how Miley had kept pestering her to seduce Lucas.

she walked over to her closet to pick out a pair of heeled sandals.

As she put on her sandals, her phone rang and she paused to receive the call when she saw that it was from Lucy.

"Good morning, Lucy," Amy greeted the moment she received the call.

"Good morning, Amy. I hope you rested well. You don't have to go to the office today...."

"I'm getting prepared to leave for the police station, and I will be going to the office from there. You don't have to worry about me. I'm fine," Amy said, cutting her off.

"You can pick out something from my closet. I'm sure my clothes would fit," Lucy said, and Amy winced when she realized that she was yet to tell Lucy that she had left the apartment already and was now at her place.

How was she going to explain to Lucy that she had left with her car without her permission? And she had left 'strangers' at her apartment? She couldn't possibly lie to Lucy that her 'friends' had left since she was pretty sure the neighbor who had alerted her of their presence might also inform her that her car was missing.

"Amy? Are you there?" Lucy asked when Amy went silent.

"Yeah. The thing is, I left your place already. And I took your car. I didn't want to bother Mia and I didn't want to borrow your clothes to the office. I'm sorry I didn't call to pre-inform you," Amy said and Lucy's brows pulled together.

If it were her cousins that visited as Mia had said, why didn't she take money from them? And how did she know where to find the car key? Why was the whole thing not adding up? And just how was Amy able to find her car key? She never left them out in the open. Did Amy search through her stuff? Lucy mused.

"I see. What about your guests? Did they leave with you?" Lucy asked curiously.

"Yes. Yes, they did," Amy lied when she remembered that Lucas had said he would move to the hotel with Tyler.

"Alright. That's fine then. I guess he left your place already," Lucy asked referring to Malone.

She wasn't going to bother asking Amy any further questions. She was just going to stop by her apartment later to be sure that everything was intact.

"Yes, he did. He left a note saying he would be back, but I'm taking it to the station," Amy said and Lucy nodded.

"Good. The CEO wants a picture of him. Something clear that can be left with the security at the company so they can easily identify him if he dares to show his face at the company," Lucy said, not seeing the need to refer to Tom as Tom to Amy since she didn't want Amy to address Tom casually.

She might be friends with Amy, but Tom was still Amy's boss until Tom chooses otherwise. And referring to him as my boyfriend to Amy, would sound somehow, so she preferred to use his title.

"You told him about it?" Amy asked with a slight frown.

"I told her I borrowed her car and she asked if my visitors left with me," Amy explained and Lucas turned to look at her.

"Did she ask how you got her car key?" Lucas asked, since he knew where Lucy kept it only because Lucy had told him where to keep it during his last visit there.

"No. Why?" She asked and Lucas sighed.

"You shouldn't ordinarily be able to find her car key unless you searched through her stuff. She is most likely going to want to stop over at her place to see if anything is out of place," Lucas said and Amy frowned.

"I don't like that. I don't want her to think I'm the sort of person to go through someone's stuff. I didn't even open a single drawer or touch anything. I only slept on the bed." Amy said and Lucas sighed.

"I'm sorry. It will all be resolved today. I'm sure when she sees me she will understand better," Lucas said softly.

"You haven't told me why you are doing this," Amy reminded him.

Lucas shrugged, "Two reasons. First, it is in my nature to want to help others. That's why I studied medicine. Secondly, although I don't like or support what you chose to do, I admire your loyalty to Miley, and I don't think you deserve to suffer this way for trying to be a good friend. Even though...."

"I'm not sure I want to hear the next part of your statement. I'm okay with the first part. Thanks," Amy said, cutting him off.

"Why not?" Lucas asked and she gave him a stiff smile.

"Cause I'm pretty sure you're about to go on and on about how you think my loyalty was misguided and my action illogical. And how you think I should have convinced her otherwise, am I wrong?" Amy asked and Lucas scowled, hating that she had predicted correctly.

Amy smiled when he didn't say anything, "Miley really liked you a lot, you know? Although I can't understand why...."

"What do you mean by that? I've been told that I'm a very likable person," Lucas cut in defensively.

"I was going to say I can't understand why she had to meet you at that point of her life, but thanks for letting me know you are likable. I really had no idea," Amy said dryly.

"I'm sure you do. You said it yourself that you thought I was cute and calm," Lucas said and Amy sighed deeply at the realization that they were back to that.

"What was that name you called me? Let's see," Lucas said with a thoughtful expression as he tried to recall it, "Dr Hottie, right?" He asked, and Amy resisted the urge to scowl.

"I was upset. I didn't mean anything I said," Amy said and Lucas nodded.

He was sure she didn't realize that saying she didn't mean anything she said, was the same as admitting that she didn't mean what she said about him not being as cute and calm as she had thought.

That definitely meant she thought he was cute and calm, Lucas thought with a chuckle.

"I agree," Lucas said making Amy frowned as she wondered what he was finding amusing.

"If I may ask, Why are you always so violent?" Lucas asked curiously.

"I'm not violent...."

"Yes, you are. You seem to always be in fight mode and I'm surprised that you went into flight mode when it mattered most. You should have fought the intruder out of your apartment instead of running away. Do you only have the impulse to attack innocent and unsuspecting people?" He asked, since he had been wondering why she had been quick to attack him yet had run away from her own apartment.

"I didn't think I could win against him...."

"And you thought you could win against me?" Lucas asked as he turned to spare her a glance.

"You can't compare both incidents. In your case, I was out in the open and it was attack or be attacked. What was I supposed to do? Scream and then wait to be robbed? I had to attack first before thinking of yelling for help since that would alert you to the fact that I know I was being followed had you been an actual thief. I had to defend myself. Malone's case was different. Growing up, my mom always used to say it is good to defend yourself and get justice later, than to get justice after you're dead. But it is better to know when to try to defend yourself and when to flee. I didn't want to risk getting raped," Amy said as Lucas pulled the car to a stop in front of the police station.

"I see. We are here now," Lucas said as he parked the car and they both got out of the car.

He hoped he would be able to wrap up things with her and here and wouldn't have to see her again before leaving. Somehow conversing with her made him feel like he was a fish being slowly reeled and whether he liked it or not he was getting more and more involved.

Chapter 790 Common Face

790 Common Face

After dropping Amy off at the office, Lucas hurried back to Lucy's apartment so that he and Tyler would leave before Lucy shows up there, but just as he got out of the car after parking it, a sleek car also pulled up in front of the apartment.

"Lucas? Oh, my God, Lucas?" Lucy yelled from inside the car as she quickly opened the door and ran out happily.

"Shit!" Lucas swore but had a grin on his face as he held out his arms to catch Lucy who was already jumping at him.

They both laughed happily as he caught her and swirled around with her before setting her down, "So much for not missing me," Lucas said with a grin.

"When did you get here.... Wait, you were Amy's supposed cousin who got into the country last night?" She asked in disbelief as it all clicked in her brain.

"Sorry, I wanted to surprise you girls, but you didn't make it easy," Lucas said, and looked up from Lucy to look at her companions- Sonia, Jade, Candace and Andy.

"Sony, you didn't think I would miss your wedding, did you?" Lucas asked as he met Sonia's gaze.

Sonia grinned as she stepped forward to embrace him, "I would have understood if you couldn't show up, but thanks for making it," she said as she kissed his cheeks.

"How are you doing, Luca?" She asked as she looked at his face as though searching any sign that he wasn't fine.

"Wait, if you came with someone else, then it has to be Tyler, right? Tyler is here?" Lucy asked with wide eyes, and when Lucas nodded, Lucy ran into the house without bothering to introduce the others to Lucas, leaving Sonia with the task.

"TYLER!" Lucy yelled as she jumped on Tyler who was still fast asleep on the couch, and Tyler groaned as he opened his eyes.

The displeased frown that etched his brows at being roused from sleep slowly transformed into a grin as he realized it was Lucy.

"Hey, princess Lu," Tyler greeted with a yawn before Lucy enveloped him in a hug.

"It's so good to see you, Ty! You look great!" Lucy said and they both looked up when they heard the capture sound of a camera.

"I'm going to send these to Tom," Jade said, flashing them both a smile, and Candace rolled her eyes.

"Tom knows Tyler," Lucy said with a roll of her eyes as she stepped away from Tyler.

"Yet last night he said he doesn't want to see Tyler's shadow anywhere close to you," Lucas said and Lucy rose a brow.

"Tom knows you're here?" She asked with narrowed eyes not wanting to believe that Tom had known Lucas was the person with Amy but had pretended not to know anything.

"I called him immediately I got in to find out if your apartment was available. He didn't know Amy was here so he assured me the place was empty. I asked him not to tell you. . So be cool, okay?" Lucas said and they turned to Tyler when he whistled.

"Did I die and go to heaven? Who are these beautiful creatures? Sony? Is that you? I guess I'm not in Heaven. You can't be an Angel," Tyler said and Sonia giggled as she stepped forward to embrace him.

"I see you're still an ass after all these years," she said fondly.

"You will agree I'm a cute ass, though," Tyler said with a grin.

"I should probably do the introductions," Lucy said and faced the others.

"Ladies, this is Doctor Lucas, my kid twin brother, and this is Doctor Tyler, our best friend...."

"Really, Lu? Kid twin brother? We are doing that in public now?"

"Nope. Tyler is Lucas' best friend. I'm your only best friend," Sonia said at the same time with Lucas, and they all laughed.

"Yes, Lucas, you're my kid brother and I want them all to know...."

"It wasn't even up to five minutes for crying out loud," Lucas said and Lucy shrugged.

"It doesn't change anything. Now shush, I need to finish the introductions. Gentlemen, as you might have already guessed by her behavior, this is Jade Hank...."

"What do you mean guessed by my behavior? What have I done other than capture a photo to show Tom what his girlfriend is doing in his absence?" She asked with a scowl.

"You can only do that if you're Tom's best friend, or ex-girlfriend wanting to come back, or admirer wanting to be with him, or an annoying sister, and since you're neither of the others since Lucy is hanging out with you, annoying sister is more befitting," Candace explained sweetly and Jade eyed her with displeasure while the others laughed.

"I actually meant from her resemblance to Tom and Bryan, but Candace's explanation is good too," Lucy said with a grin.

"It's nice to meet you, Jade," Lucas said with a pleasant smile as he shook a hands with her.

"Don't be so dramatic. Tom is all talk," Lucy assured him.

"I don't want to stay at Tom's. Mom and dad will be there. And I don't want them to fuss over me. I'd rather they don't know I'm around until they see me at the wedding. So, keep it to yourself," Lucas said and Lucy made a zip gesture on her lips.

"My lips are sealed," Lucy promised.

"You both should come for the party tonight," Sonia said and Lucas nodded.

"We planned to. Tom already invited us," Lucas said and Lucy smiled as she looked at him.

"You look so much better, Luke," she said as she touched his face happily.

"And you too," Lucas said, placing a hand over her hand which was on his face, and they embraced.

Candace watched them, wondering if she would ever get to this stage in her relationship with Harry. She found it easier to banter with him since she didn't know how to be all mushy.

"Ty, thanks for taking good care of him," Lucy said after they broke the hug.

"I will take better care of him if he would join me fully...."

"No," Lucy said before he could finish, "We want him back here with us. Luke, you're coming back, right?" She asked and he nodded.

"Sure. Don't want to be so far away from you," Lucas said and Lucy smiled as she embraced him again.

"You guys are not leaving immediately after the wedding, right? We have so much to talk about," Lucy said to Lucas.

"We will be leaving on Monday," Lucas said and Lucy nodded.

"That's good enough then. Have you guys had breakfast? Do you want me to fix you something before leaving?" She offered and Lucas shook his head.

"No. We will order something to eat. You girls can go have fun," Lucas said and the ladies rose since they had a lot to do for the day.

"I hope to catch up with you two later tonight," Lucas said to Candace and Andy as he followed them outside and they smiled at him.

"Hey, Lucy!" Alicia greeted from across the street as she went to join them.

"Alicia, this is my brother Lucas and his friend. I'm surprised you didn't recognize him last night," Lucy said and Alicia smiled apologetically.

"It was dark and I saw them from a distance," Alicia explained.

"Give me a minute to say hello to Mia," Sonia said as she headed for Tom's apartment, and Tyler watched her go.

"Don't you beautiful ladies need bodyguards? We can come with you to make sure you're safe," Tyler offered.

"Not me. I need to sleep. Here is your car key," Lucas said as he handed the key.

"Yes, you should definitely sleep. Thanks for looking out for Amy. And you should hold on to the car key while you're here," Lucy said without taking the key from him.

"Are you all going somewhere?" Alicia asked with interest.

"Yeah. We are going shopping," Lucy said just as Sonia and Mia joined them.

"Thanks for last night, Mia. This is my twin brother, Lucas, and his best friend, Tyler," Lucy explained.

"I guess that's why he didn't step out of the kitchen. I would have guessed had I seen his face," Mia said as she shook hands with Lucas before looking at Tyler.

Looking at Tyler in the light of day, she sensed that there was something familiar about him but she couldn't place it, so she shrugged it off as she shook hands with them.

"You look very much like someone I used to know," Tyler said and Mia froze.

"You must have a very common face like you said," Jade said, referring to what she had said when Harry said she looked familiar too.

"Yeah, I do have a common face," Mia said with a stiff smile but something about her initial reaction already set Tyler's suspicion off.

"I should go back inside. See you girls later tonight," Mia said with a wave before walking away even though she had no intention of attending the party now that she had met Tyler.