Wild Night 91

Chapter 91 - Want To Have A Look?

By the time it was morning, Sonia had dark circles under her eyes as she hadn't gotten enough sleep the previous time. She had barely slept for forty-five minutes when the first alarm went off, and then after massaging Bryan's ankle for twenty minutes while he slept like a baby, she had run into Matt having a nightcap by the bar when she went to return the ice pack to the freezer.

She had talked with him for a little while, asking if Candace was asleep already and why he was drinking alone. He told her Candace had gone home and asked why Bryan had been calling earlier. After Sonia told him about Bryan's accident, they had both decided to call it a night. After that she had tried to fall asleep to no avail, so she had busied herself by typing down what the next chapter of her story would be like on her phone. Just when she finally managed to fall asleep, the alarm had gone off thirty minutes later, and she had repeated the same process. The fourth time when she decided to ignore the alarm and just sleep, the devil in the form of the man lying beside her had woken her up, pointing to his ankle without saying a word.

Now it was morning, and Sonia was in a foul mood, while Bryan seemed to be in a very pleasant mood, "What's so funny?" Sonia asked with a scowl when she noticed Bryan grinning from ear to ear and humming a happy tune as she massaged his ankle with the ice pack.

He had woken up each time the alarm went off but had pretended to be asleep while watching her under his lashes as she rubbed his ankle with the ice. At some point, he had felt sorry for her when he noticed how she was dozing off while doing it, but he had quickly reminded himself that she was the cause of everything, and as such she deserved it.

"I just realized how beautiful you are. Especially with those dark circles under your eyes. You look like the human version of a Giant Panda," Bryan said with an even wider grin, which only seemed to annoy her the more as she could tell he was enjoying himself.

"Ouch!" Bryan yelped with pain and surprise, drawing back his leg away from Sonia who had angrily pressed his ankle hard.

"What? Does it hurt?" Sonia asked with a smirk as she stood up, ready to leave with the ice pack.

Bryan let out a chuckle before he could stop himself, enjoying her annoyance more than he wanted to, "You are gradually beginning to reveal your true colors," Bryan said as he watched her walk to the door.

"Trust me, you don't want to see how colorful I can be," Sonia warned with a glare before she walked out of the bedroom, while Bryan continued to hum his happy tune.

Even though he was still feeling frustrated by the current situation of things, seeing Sonia in this state made it worth it. If she was already feeling this annoyed in barely twenty-four hours, he was sure she would willingly walk out of his life within the next three days.

"I need to use the bathroom," Bryan said, immediately Sonia returned to the bedroom.

"Go ahead. The bathroom is all yours," Sonia said with a flourish as she walked over to the bed, determined to catch a few hours of sleep now that Bryan was awake.

"I wasn't asking you for permission. I'm asking you to take me to the bathroom," Bryan said pointing to his ankle, reminding her that he couldn't walk.

Sonia looked at him incredulously, "I beg your pardon?"

"You don't expect me to walk over to the bathroom on this foot, do you?" Bryan asked, going for the helpless look.

"You only twisted one ankle. Surely you can hop to the bathroom on one foot, can't you?"

Bryan shook his head, "I can't."

Sonia rolled her eyes before letting out a sigh, "I will help you get Matt. He should be able to assist you," Sonia said, getting up from the bed.

"You are my fiancee, not Matt. Can you not take care of me? What if Matt wasn't in the house with us?" Bryan asked, giving her the eyes of an abandoned puppy.

"I can tell you are trying to get on my already frayed nerves," Sonia said through gritted teeth as she stood in the center of the room, contemplating whether to get Matt or take Bryan to the bathroom herself.

After thinking about it only for a moment, she walked over to Bryan's side of the bed and leaned down so he could place his arm around her shoulders and lean on her for support. Bryan held on to her shoulder but tried not to place all his weight on her as she led him to the bathroom, while he hopped on one leg.

Once they walked into the bathroom and stood in front of the toilet, Sonia reached out a hand to the front of his sleeping robe to help him take out his penis, but Bryan quickly slapped her hand away, "What are you trying to do?" he asked in a stern voice.

"Isn't it obvious? I want to help you take out your dick while you take a piss," Sonia said, flashing him an innocent smile while fluttering her lashes at him. If he thought he was the only one who knew how to make fun of an annoying situation, then she was about to show him that she was worse than him.

"Thanks, but no thanks. I can continue from here. So if you don't mind, please excuse me," Bryan said, jerking his head towards the door as he waited for her to leave so that he could ease himself.

"Excuse you? Why? Didn't you just say you needed the help of your fiancee? Well, I'm doing that now as I would for my fiance, so come on, you don't have to be shy," Sonia said with a sweet smile as she reached for his robe once again.

"Sonia!" Bryan growled at her, making her giggle all of a sudden.

"I'm not sure I have ever heard you directly call me by my name before now. It sounds so sexy coming from you," Sonia said in amusement as she looked at him.

"Why are you hiding it anyway? Is it that tiny?" Sonia asked, shifting her gaze from his face to the spot between his legs.

Even though his robe covered him fully, he couldn't help but feel very uncomfortable at the unwanted attention his 'special member' was getting from her. He had meant to tease her, not have her switch on him like this.

"Do you want to have a look?" Bryan asked turning his waist in her direction, hoping she would feel embarrassed and leave.

Do I? Sonia nodded eagerly as she looked at him expectantly like a kid who had just been offered candy, "Yes, please."

Of course, she was a stubborn witch. What had he been expecting? That she would say no? Not this witch.

Bryan drew in a deep breath to calm himself, "Can you please excuse me and let me ease myself in private?" Bryan asked as calmly as he could, but Sonia could see the glare in his eyes as he looked at her.

"Are you sure you can stand on one leg long enough to ease yourself? I don't want you falling and twisting your second ankle," Sonia asked with a pleasant smile and giggled when Bryan shoved her away from him.

"Leave!" He yelled at her impatiently.

Sonia giggled, "Ah-ah! Now you are showing your true colors!" Sonia said as she playfully spanked his ass before heading for the door, "Call me if you need your fiancee to help you clean up," she added with a wink and giggled when he shut his eyes, before walking away and shutting the door behind her.

Once he was sure she had left he quickly locked the door from within, and let out a sigh. What sort of trouble had he gotten himself involved in? One minute he thought he was on top of things, and then next she was pushing him off the edge again. She had even spanked his ass? This mad lady!

He quickly handled his business, and once he was done, he flushed the toilet and put down the toilet seat before sitting on it. He reached for his toothbrush and paste, and quickly brushed his teeth, before managing to drag himself to the shower to bathe. After he was done, he dried his hair before wearing the robe and knocking on the door for Sonia to come in.

"For a moment there I thought you probably slipped again and hit your head this time," Sonia said with a smile when he unlocked the door from inside and she walked in.

Bryan leaned on her shoulder as they both returned inside the bedroom, "Maybe I should go out and get you a crutch so you can move around easily on your own?" Sonia asked once he got on the bed.

"And what would you be doing while I'm using crutches?" Bryan asked with a stiff smile.

"Is this supposed to be some sort of punishment?" Sonia asked in disbelief, "Like are you making me do all this just to punish me?"

Bryan yawned, "I'm hungry. Can you get me breakfast?" He asked, ignoring her question.

"I will after you tell me where you kept my laptop and writing materials. I need to work," Sonia said, and Bryan pursed his lips like he was contemplating what she had just said, before picking up his phone.

He dialed Mia's line, and she picked up almost immediately, "Are you busy?" He asked once the call connected.

Mia who had been doing her yoga exercise sat up, "Just doing my exercises," she said, panting softly.

"Good. I'm hungry. Get me something to eat," Bryan ordered, and hung up immediately before turning to smile at Sonia, "As long as I can't work in this state, neither can you."

Sonia opened her mouth to say something, but before she could Matt knocked on the bedroom door, and they both turned to the door, "Come in," Bryan said, relieved that Matt was here now.

Matt walked in, and looked from Bryan to Sonia before looking back at Bryan, "Is everything okay?"

"Sure. I was just having a pleasant conversation with the love of my life," Bryan said with a grin, and Sonia glared at him before walking out of the room, giving both friends privacy.

"Are you sure? She looks very pissed," Matt said, looking at the door. Gét latest n ovel chapters on $n_0 v(e) lbj/n(.)c/om$

"Don't worry about her. She is okay. What's up? Where were you when I was calling last night?" Bryan asked with a scowl when he remembered he had been unable to reach Matt.

"I had a female guest. Where do you think I was?" Matt asked, and Bryan nodded in understanding.

"How is your leg?" Matt asked, looking at Bryan's ankle which was wrapped with an ace bandage and elevated on the bed.

"I'm getting by. Where are you going to?" Bryan asked when he noticed that Matt was dressed like he was heading out.

"I figured since you don't need me around to get rid of her anymore I can leave. And I got a call from my manager, need to meet with a producer this morning," Matt explained.

"Cool," Bryan said with a nod. That would leave him alone with Sonia, and as such, she would have no choice but be absolutely responsible for him.. Not bad at all, Bryan thought with a grin.

Chapter 92 - Friends Hangout (2)

Lucy watched Anita as she returned to the living room with a tray containing two platters of chocolate cookies. She dropped a platter on the parlor stool beside Lucy, and the other on another stool, before returning inside with the tray to get a teapot, teacups a bowl of sugar and cream.

Seeing how Anita had chosen to serve tea and cookies instead of soda or something simple, she became curious about Anita's background and upbringing. Everything about the lady from her poise and conduct, to even how she talked and laughed seemed elegant and classy. It was almost as if she was preparing to be married into a royal family or a high-class family. Tea would be the last thing she would ever think of serving a guest at her apartment. Not when there was wine, beer, or canned soda drinks.

"Please help yourself," Anita said, after pouring some quantity of tea into Lucy's teacup and setting it on a saucer.

"Thank you," Lucy said with a polite smile, feeling stressed out by the mere thought of mixing the tea when she could have easily opened a can drink and sipped from it. She couldn't complain anyway. She was a guest and had to make do with whatever her host had chosen to offer.

"I noticed the photo of you with a dog. You have a pet?" Lucy asked, watching as Anita added sugar and cream to her tea, and doing the same.

"Oh! Yeah. His name is Snow. I had to lock him away since I didn't want him to constitute a nuisance," Anita said dismissively.

"I hope he doesn't hate me for that," Lucy said with a light smile.

"Not at all. He's busy with a bone and other treats," Anita assured her as she stirred her tea by placing the teaspoon at a 12 o'clock position in the cup and softly folding the liquid back and forth a couple of times to the 6 o'clock position. Once she was done Lucy watched as she popped the teaspoon on the saucer, at the right side of the cup.

Lucy sighed inwardly. Why did Anita have to be so proper? Being friends with her was going to be so stressful as she didn't have the patience for all these unnecessary proper procedures.

Anita's lips curved in a smile as though she could read Lucy's mind merely by looking at her face. She lifted her teacup to her lips, only taking her eyes off Lucy to look into the cup as she sipped from it, "So, you are new here?" She asked curiously as she returned the teacup to the saucer on the parlor stool next to her.

"Yes. I recently got promoted to the headquarters. Tomorrow makes it one week since I came here," Lucy said, returning her smile as she sipped from her cup too, imitating Anita's gesture. Thankfully she knew a little about tea etiquette, else she would have embarrassed herself by now. She made a mental note not to visit Anita at her home next time. She would gladly do the matchmaking at a different location.

"I guess congratulations are in order then if it isn't too late."

"Thank you," Lucy said as she picked a cookie from the platter and was almost throwing it into her mouth when she noticed Anita taking a small bite. Lucy hesitated only for a moment and then she threw it into her mouth. She was here for a visit, not a job interview. Anita could be proper all she liked, but she would rather not be dragged into it. What was the point of all this unnecessary etiquette?

"I suppose you like it here?" Anita asked, wanting to circle small topics before moving to the major subject she was curious about.

"I'm not sure yet. Still keeping my fingers crossed. What about you? How long have you been here?" Lucy asked before Anita could ask another question.

"I've been here all my life. I was born and raised right under this roof," Anita said, still smiling.

Oh! That explained why the neighborhood had seemed so fancy. At some point, she had begun to wonder how much Anita earned to be able to afford such an apartment in such a neighborhood.

"That means you must be very familiar with the city. I'm glad I now have a friend like you to show me around," Lucy said, and Anita giggled, raising one hand to cover her mouth as she laughed politely.

As Anita giggled, she decided that it was time to slowly ease into the subject, so once she stopped laughing she looked at Lucy with a slightly serious gaze, "That reminds me. I have been curious about something, and I hope you don't mind if I ask a question," Anita asked, and Lucy gave her a one-sided shrug which meant that she didn't mind.

Lucy couldn't help the feeling that she was here for an interview. Anita had been asking from one question to the other since she sat down, so Lucy saw no reason why she was seeking permission to ask a question now unless the question she wanted to ask was something that shouldn't concern her, Lucy mused, but pasted a smile on her face to mask what she was thinking, "And what could that be?" Lucy asked, meeting Anita's curious gaze.

"I recently learned that the CEO hasn't had a personal assistant for more than six years, and Mr. Harry has been the one functioning as his assistant. How then did you manage to get the job so easily when you have barely worked here for a week?" Anita asked as she picked up a chocolate cookie from the platter on the stool beside her couch.

She had been thinking about it and had come to one conclusion, maybe Lucy had caught the interest of the CEO. How else could he have decided he needed a personal assistant just within a week of her arrival?

Lucy pursed her lips as she considered Sonia's question. There was no way she could tell Sonia the truth. It would paint her in a very bad light if she told Sonia that she has gone to ask them to change her driver and that had annoyed the CEO, so he had asked her to resume his office. Somethings were supposed to be left private, and she wasn't sure her friendship with Anita had gotten to the stage where she could confide in her about such subjects yet.

"It's funny because I've been asking myself the same question until I came to just one conclusion," Lucy said thoughtfully, and Anita leaned forward, curious to know if Lucy was thinking the same thing as her.

"Which is?"

"Grace. It has to be God's grace and favor, right?" Lucy asked, making Anita lean back in her seat while trying to hide her disappointment

Seeing the disappointment on her face, Lucy smiled, "Anyway, what I really think is that he probably heard about how much effort I put into any assignment, and decided he wants a workaholic like me working for him. I live for my job," Lucy confided.

"Ah! I see," Anita said with a nod. Maybe that explained it. He probably was used to ladies trying to seduce him, so he had chosen Lucy because she was a workaholic and wouldn't want to risk losing her job by seducing him. And thankfully, Lucy wasn't interested in him either.

"Yeah. I'm curious about something too," Lucy said, making Anita look at her curiously.

"What could that be?" Vissit novelbin(.)c.om for updates

"Are you in a romantic relationship with anyone?" Lucy asked with a slight blush, embarrassed to be asking someone such a personal question. She needed to know for Tom's sake, so he wouldn't waste his time.

Hearing her question, Anita smiled as she shook her head, "I'm not. I'm still waiting for the perfect man," Anita said, hoping Lucy was asking because she was thinking of introducing her to the CEO, "What about you?" Anita returned the question.

"I already told you. I'm not interested in men. My job is more important to me," Lucy said, and Anita gave her a nod.

All Anita prayed for at that moment was that Lucy would never be interested in men. And if for any reason she started having an interest in men, it should never be the CEO. Someone like Lucy deserved a good and simple man like Tom. And judging by her discussion with Tom the first day, it had sounded like Tom had a crush on his boss. Maybe it would be best if she played the role of a matchmaker between them both. She could use a single stone to kill two birds. By bringing them together, she would be more relaxed to know that Lucy was in a relationship and would never get in her way. Also if the CEO was having his eyes on Lucy he would withdraw once he realized she was in a relationship, and as such there would be no chance for Lucy. And then there was the issue of clearing things with Tom. He won't hold any grudge against her if she helped him get the girl he wanted. If things worked well, then maybe Tom and Lucy would help her get the CEO, Anita thought with a smile, before asking, "What about your driver? How is he?"

Lucy's lips curved in a smile, as she was happy that Anita was asking about Tom, giving her the opening she needed to tell him how nice Tom is, "He is very fine."

Seeing the smile on Lucy's face, Anita assumed it was because Lucy was fond of Tom and happy to talk about him, "He is a very handsome and nice guy, you know?" Anita asked, and Lucy nodded.

"Yeah. And charming too.. It's such a shame that he is single," Lucy said with a shake of her head.

Chapter 93 - Golden Stars Entertainment Agency

"What?" The CEO of Golden Stars Entertainment agency asked Bryan's manager, Jeff, with a glare in his eyes, daring either him or Mia to repeat what they had just told him.

Mia exchanged a look with Jeff, and he shook his head, indicating for her not to say anything. Mia who had gone over to Bryan's penthouse to deliver breakfast as requested by Bryan had been startled to see his ankle wrapped in an Ace bandage. Sonia had told her that Bryan slipped in the bathroom and hurt his ankle and that the doctor had asked him to rest his leg. Mia had the called Jeff on her way out to find out if he was aware of Bryan's accident since Bryan not only had a couple of commercial ads shoots to film the following week, but he also had some movie scenes to shoot, beginning from Monday, and wouldn't be able to do them with the ace bandage around his ankle.

Jeff had been surprised by the news and had asked Mia to meet him at the agency immediately. Once she got there and explained the situation of things to him, he had taken her up to the CEO's office so they could tell him about it, as Bryan was one of the most successful stars in their agency. Tôp *nove*l updates on n/(o)/v/*e*lb/in(.)com

"I'm sorry sir," Jeff said with a polite bow. He knew he was partly to blame for only just hearing about this now from Mia. If he was a good manager, Bryan would have called him from the

moment he slipped in the bathroom, even before getting off the floor. He had been too busy with the personal details of his life to pay much attention to Bryan.

"Sorry?" The CEO barked at him angrily as he stood up from his seat and paced back and forth, before turning to look at him again, "Does sorry cut it? Do you have any idea what this is going to cost us if he doesn't meet up with his appointments? You are his manager for crying out loud and you are meant to babysit an important star like Bryan!!! Do I have to teach you your job?" He yelled, pointing at Jeff angrily, while Mia took some steps backward, not wanting to be in the line of fire.

"I thought he needed a break from..."

"A break? When have we ever given the stars a break? Can you see what happens when you give them a break? It always ends in a god-damned disaster! It's either a fucking scandal or an accident! You should have known better!" He yelled again, before wiping his face with one hand and taking in a deep breath to calm himself.

Jeff looked at his feet without saying a word. Even though he had admitted to himself a moment ago that it was his fault, he couldn't understand why the CEO was blaming him so much. He had only apologized because he felt guilty that he was only just getting to know that Bryan had hurt his ankle through Mia, not because Bryan had hurt his ankle. Why should he feel guilty because Bryan hurt his ankle? Why was the CEO blaming him for it? Was he the bathroom floor that had made Bryan slip? Or was he supposed to carry Bryan into the bathroom to bathe him? Jeff mused but kept a humble and remorseful expression on his face, as well as his body language.

The CEO looked at Mia, and she took another step backward, "You are sure he is wounded? What if he is just pretending just so he doesn't work and spend more time with that lady?" He asked suspiciously, and Mia almost snorted before remembering that it was the CEO.

She shook her head instead, "The last thing Bryan wants is to be around that lady. If he had his way, I'm sure he would have moved out of the house, leaving her there all by herself," Mia said, and the CEO's eyes narrowed.

"Are you sure he got hurt in the bathroom and it was not that girl?" He asked, reasoning that it was possible Sonia had hurt him just so she could keep him in the house with her.

Mia shook her head once again, "She wouldn't do something like that," Mia said confidently.

The CEO bent his head to one side as he looked at her with a slightly raised brow, "And you are so sure, because?"

"Because she just isn't that kind of person. If she wants him to stay put, she would make him do so without resorting to physical violence. She is smart," Mia said with a small smile.

Jeff who had been looking down, finally raised his head a little when he noticed the tone of the conversation had changed. The CEO who had sounded so angry a while ago sounded less angry and more curious now.

"You seem to like and respect her," He observed, and Mia gave him a nod.

The CEO sighed, and returned to his seat before glaring at Jeff who quickly looked down, "Give his doctor a call, let's find out how serious it is," he ordered, and Jeff quickly took out his phone from his pocket and dialed the doctor's line.

"Sit down!" He ordered, "Both of you," he added when they looked at him, not knowing which of them he was referring to.

They both sat down on the two seats opposite him, while they all waited for the call to connect. Once the call connected Jeff placed the phone on speaker and placed it on the table.

"Hey, Jeff!" The doctor greeted in a friendly tone since he was quite familiar with Bryan's manager.

"What is the situation of Bryan's ankle?" The CEO asked without bothering to introduce himself since he was sure the doctor knew his voice. The doctor was paid by the agency to take care of the health of the stars, so of course, he had to know the voice of his employer.

"Hello, sir! Good afternoon sir!" He greeted politely, every trace of the friendliness out of his tone.

"I'm waiting," The CEO said impatiently.

"He twisted his ankle and has to stay off his feet for a minimum of ten days, in order to let it heal properly," the doctor said, making the CEO sigh.

"And nothing can be done about that to speed up the healing process? For a golden star like Bryan, every second counts. We already gave him a week to rest, we can't stretch it," the CEO said, explaining to the doctor as patiently as he could muster.

"It can't be helped. Unless his shoots don't involve him moving around," the doctor explained, making the CEO sigh wearily. Without saying another word he pressed the disconnect icon and sat back in his seat with his eyes closed as he tried to come up with something that could be done.

"The both of you should call the producers and companies Bryan has business with for next week. Find out if rescheduling is possible since Bryan is injured and can't work at the moment," the CEO said without opening his eyes while he kept thinking of what to do.

Mia and Jeff stood up immediately and walked out of the office. "I don't think they are going to buy it. Everyone knows his fiancee is around. They are likely going to think he is skipping work to laze around with his fiancee," Mia told Jeff as they walked into the office allocated to Bryan.

"We won't know if we don't try," Jeff told her, pointing to one of the telephones in the office for her to pick it up and place the call.

Thirty minutes later Mia had an 'I told you so' look on her face as she and Jeff dropped the telephone receivers. The producer had been pissed off that his movie was about to be delayed again all because of Bryan.. The three directors of the various companies in charge of the commercial ads Bryan was supposed to shoot for their company were equally pissed, and two among them had hinted that Bryan was becoming irresponsible since his engagement.

Chapter 94 - I Intend To Frustrate You...

"The CEO won't like this," Mia told Jeff who sighed as he ran his fingers through his hair.

"Like I don't know that already?" He asked with a scowl. The major problem at the moment was that none of them were willing to believe that Bryan had truly injured his ankle. They all thought he was avoiding his duties because his fiancee was visiting.

At that same moment, Mia's phone beeped with an Instagram notification message and she clicked on it. It was Sonia's post. She had made a video of Bryan who was fast asleep, and in the video, Bryan woke up once he heard Sonia's light giggle, and glared at her before covering his face.

Mia sat up when the caption caught her attention, "Who wants a reality show?"

She quickly scrolled through the comment section and when she saw all the positive responses, she raised her head to look at Jeff who was deep in thought, "I think I have an idea that might be of help to everyone," She said with a big smile, loving the idea the more she thought of it.

"You do? Let's hear it," Jeff said, looking at her with interest.

"A live reality show!" Mia said, her eyes gleaming with excitement, while Jeff looked at her in confusion.

"What?"

Mia stood up and started pacing around the little office as she tried to put her idea into words, "Think about it for a second. Everyone would go crazy if we did a live reality show involving Bryan and his fiancee," she said, using her hands to make quotes as she said the word fiancee, "He has a really large fan base. And believe me, not just his fans, but many others as well would want to watch the show and find out how a playboy like Bryan fell in love. We could make it a week-long show. We will allow the producer of the movie to handle the show, and the companies Bryan was to run commercial ads for, would still get to run their commercials during the showtime. We could even make Bryan talk about their products and endorse them during the reality show. It's going to be nothing like anyone has seen before," Mia said, stopping to look at Jeff.

"Who knows what might happen between those two before the end of the show?" She asked, wriggling her brows suggestively. She felt like this might help bring them both together.

"Bryan would never agree to something as crazy as this, and you know it. You know how much he likes his privacy. And then even if he would agree to do this, I don't think the CEO..." He was cut short when the office door opened, and the CEO walked in, looking at him with disapproval.

"You don't think the CEO what? And shouldn't it be your job to convince Bryan to do it? Aren't you supposed to run the idea by me before waving it off? Do you have any idea how much money we would lose if those companies decide to cancel their contract with him, and sue him for breaching the terms of their agreement?" The CEO who had been about to enter the office before overhearing Mia's idea, asked Jeff as he stopped in front of Mia who had frozen in one spot upon seeing him.

He had been coming to find out the details of the phone calls before hearing Mia's suggestion. After listening to what she had to say earlier, he had to agree that the idea of a reality show made sense. It would not only fetch everyone involved good money while waiting for Bryan to heal completely, but it would also give his fans and the media something exciting to talk about. It would be a first-of-its-kind sort of show, and a win-win for everyone involved.

The CEO ignored Jeff, and turned to Mia, "What do you think about this fake fiancee of his?" He asked curiously.

Mia cleared her throat, her heart beating very fast in her chest, "She is very determined and stubborn. Probably the only lady that might be able to tame Bryan and put him in his place... That is if we are willing to put an end to his scandals," Mia said, and the CEO nodded like that was all he needed to hear.

"Do you have any idea what the show should entail?" He asked, and Mia pursed her lips thoughtfully.

"Could be about the everyday life of Bryan and his fiancee. And then they can share their romance story with the world," Mia said, forming a quote with her fingers when she said 'romance story'

"Not bad. I will come up with something to make it more colorful! Let's do it," he said with a nod before turning to Bryan's manager, "You should go and inform Bryan and his fake fiancee that they would be starring in a reality show. Get a wheelchair to his place while you are at it. We don't want him hopping around with crutches. He could hurt himself more. I will take care of the producer and the others," he instructed before patting Mia's shoulder.

"This is a brilliant idea. Maybe I should make you Bryan's manager and Jeff the personal assistant," the CEO muttered as he walked out of the office.

Meanwhile, in Bryan's house, oblivious of what was going on at the office he glared at Sonia who was reading all the comments under her post, "Awww. I guess they all love the video of their favorite star sleeping," Sonia said with a grin, "Do you know that the number of my Instagram followers has tripled since I arrived here?" She asked, looking at Bryan who was still glaring at her.

"I will appreciate it if you don't do that next time."

"Well, I need to work. I'm bored. I can be very crazy and do crazy shit when I'm bored. So just return my laptop, and I will stop bothering you," she said with a small smile as she scooted closer to him on the bed.

"I already told you I'm not doing that," Bryan said stubbornly.

"Who knows what I might film next? Maybe a video of Bryan Hank having his bath, or taking a leak in the toilet," she said with a threatening smile, and leaned her head on his chest, while Bryan tried to push her off him.

"You wouldn't dare," Bryan challenged.

"Come on, sweety. I'm sure by now you must have guessed how crazy I can be... I don't think you need me to prove it," Sonia said, wrapping her arms around him stubbornly and inhaling his scent, "You smell really nice," she told him, rubbing her nose against the sensitive part of his neck.

Bryan swallowed nervously at the closeness and the intimate gesture, "I don't think you should do that," he said in a husky voice as he reached for the duvet and threw it over his groin area which was gradually becoming uncomfortable.

"Do what?" Sonia asked, kissing his neck softly. She knew she was taking advantage of the fact that he couldn't walk away from the bed, to come on to him. But it couldn't be helped. Who knew if things were happening this way because the universe was on her side?

Bryan really wanted to stop her. He really hated that his rebellious body was responding to her touch, and he hated that his wayward hand was already sneaking around her waist as she kissed her way from his neck to the edge of his lips. After teasing his lips for a moment, while he waited impatiently for the kiss that would set them in motion, Sonia moved away from him, "Sorry. I shouldn't have done that," she said looking at him unapologetically in a way that made it clear that she wasn't sorry.

He knew that trick! It was one of the oldest tricks in his playboy manual! The stubborn and crazy green-eyed witch was deliberately teasing and seducing him. Fuck! How had he fallen for it? Gêtt the latest chapters on no/velbin(.)com

Sonia grinned as she watched the lust in his eyes turn into a glare, "I intend to frustrate you, Bryan Hank," she promised before moving away from him on the bed.

Bryan said nothing, and they both turned to the door when they heard it ring, "I guess we have a guest. I will go and see who it is," she said with a wink before getting off the bed.

Bryan muttered a cuss as he watched her leave.. He really needed to put some space between him and Sonia, else he was going to end up doing something very crazy.

Chapter 95 - Nosy Butler

Anita smiled to herself when she noticed that Lucy had taken out her phone and seemed to be playing a game or something. She had also taken note of how Lucy had eaten the cookie and drank the tea without care. Even the way she was seated on the couch was wrong. How was any notable personality going to take interest in a lady like her when she couldn't even behave like a proper lady? Especially in the presence of someone else? She had nothing to be scared of when it came to Lucy. Lucy was not up to par with her on any level.

Lucy played Candy Crush on her phone for a while, since neither of them seemed to have anything more to say to each other. After some time she checked the time and let out a sigh. It was just a few minutes past 3 PM. She couldn't believe she had chitchatted with Anita for close to three hours already. She would have left already if not for her date with Tom. She didn't want to go home and start feeling anxious or nervous, so she needed the distraction she was getting from their conversation, even though she wasn't finding any of it interesting.

"So any idea on what will be done with your company? Are some of you going to move to the main office at I-Global, or remain at the Ocean airline office?" Lucy asked, dropping her phone in her handbag before meeting Anita's gaze.

Anita pursed her lips thoughtfully, "I'm hoping..." She was interrupted by the sound of her phone's vibration so she smiled at Lucy before picking up her phone to see who was calling. When she saw that it was her Uncle, she looked at Lucy, "Please excuse me for a moment," she said politely as she stood up and walked away with her phone.

"Hello, Uncle!" She greeted as she walked into her bedroom.

"How are you?" Mr. Wyatt asked in a raspy voice.

"I'm fine, thank you. How are you feeling today?" She asked politely about his health since it was not yet public knowledge that he was ill.

"I'm okay. I called to let you know that Thomas Hank will be attending the meeting next week. I hope you are ready?" He asked.

Anita's heart skipped a beat, "He finally agreed to attend the meeting? I mean, I know he said he will be attending, but I thought he might change his mind since he doesn't like to be seen," Anita said, trying not to sound as excited as she felt.

"Just don't mess it up. This is your only opportunity to be seen as you wanted," he said, and Anita's curved in a wide smile.

"Thank you, Uncle. I will handle things from there," Anita said confidently. L**a**aTest nov**e**ls on (n)ovelbi/n(.)com

"Make sure you do. See you next week," With that, he hung up.

Anita's face beamed with a smile as her hand dropped to her side. She had pleaded with her uncle to ensure she was among the staff retained by I-Global and had also begged him to help her see Thomas Hank by inviting him to the company. She had convinced him that since he didn't have a child and was selling off the airline which was gradually going under to get enough money to take care of his health, he should help her meet Thomas Hank, that way if she eventually married him, his airline would still be within the family.

Now she not only had a close relationship with his personal assistant, but she was also going to meet him too. Whether he liked it or not, she was going to be his wife. It was only a matter of time.

Anita adjusted her dress and then returned to the living room to join Lucy, "I hope everything is fine?" Lucy asked politely, and Anita gave her a nod as she returned to her seat and crossed her legs under her.

"Perfect."

"I need to go out and shop for a dress, do you mind coming with me? Or is there somewhere else you have to be?" Anita asked politely.

"I will come with you, that way I can know some new places. But I will have to drive behind you so that I can go home after we are done," Lucy said, and Anita smiled at her with gratitude before standing up to pick up her handbag.

"You are such a sweetheart," Anita said as she led the way out of the house.

Once Lucy got into her car, she let out a sigh. It seemed like she really sucked at the matchmaking business. She wasn't sure she has accomplished much today, but it was a start. Maybe she would set them both up on a date without their knowledge, Lucy decided as she drove behind Anita.

Her mind briefly wandered to Tom, and she wondered about what he was doing. Probably seizing the opportunity of the weekend to do his handyman job. Why had he offered to take care of dinner when they both knew he would be busy? She thought as she drove behind Anita.

Maybe she could ask him not to worry about making the food. She could just prepare something simple and take it to his place. The purpose of the dinner was for them to have sex, not eat food anyway. The major food they were supposed to eat tonight was each other.

Knowing if she gave too much thought to it she won't do anything, she picked up her phone without thinking about it and dialed Tom's line. It rang for some time but disconnected when Tom didn't answer the phone.

She dialed it one more time, and when the same thing happened she dropped the phone on the seat next to her. Why wasn't he taking his call? Was he okay? Perhaps he was too busy and the phone was far from him, she thought with a concerned frown on her face.

Meanwhile, Tom stood in the kitchen watching every move of the chef as they prepared his and Lucy's dinner. He had left his phone in his bedroom so that he could pay attention to what the chef was doing.

"You haven't told me who she is. I suppose it's the same lady you brought home some time ago?" His Butler who had met Lucy the last time asked as he walked into the kitchen to join them, but remained by the door since the chef didn't like to have more than one person with her in the kitchen while working.

"So you can tattle to my mother?" Tom asked without turning to look at the middle-aged Butler.

"You know how your mother can be. It is very difficult to lie to her," he said with an apologetic smile, even though Tom had his back to him.

"Yeah, right. That is exactly why I can't confide in you or do anything in front of you. That way, you don't have to lie to her since you don't know anything," Tom muttered making the chef chuckle while the butler glared at her back.

"One thing is clear though, I can see you like her. I guess we have to start getting ready for two weddings," The butler said, still fishing for information, but Tom remained mum on the subject.

"When are you going to return home? You look like you are not feeding well. Plus I'm tired of feeding the ungrateful helps when I'm only here to serve you," the chef complained, turning to eye the butler who was also glaring at her since they all knew by 'ungrateful helps' she meant the butler. Both the butler and the chef were always bickering and quarreling since the butler felt he was more important than the chef because he had been employed by Tom's mother, and was more like family, while the chef felt she was more important because she had been hired strictly on merits by Tom, not because she was close to the family.

Tom who was used to their bickers, paid no heed to them, "You can always deliver some food to Harry's place since I'm living there with him. And the ungrateful helps work for me too, so cooking for them is the same as cooking for me. What's more important than taking care of everyone and receiving your paycheck at the end of every week?" Tom asked, making her sigh.

"Everything is ready," the chef announced as she took out the fried chicken from the air fryer.

"Thank you. I will quickly freshen up and go to the study to do some work. You can help me pack everything and make sure it remains hot," he instructed the chef as he wiped his hand with a napkin before taking off his apron and chef hat. He handed them to the chef before heading for the door.

As he walked out of the kitchen the butler ran after him, "I was meaning to ask you, what's with your new hairstyle and the earrings?"

"It's for a project I'm working on at the office. The client likes people who dress this way, so I'm trying to impress him," Tom lied through his teeth, knowing that anything he told the butler would be from his mouth directly to his mother's ears, and the last thing he wanted was to have any argument with his mother when she called, as he knew she would before the end of the day.

"Ah! The client must be very important," the butler said thoughtfully as he climbed the stairs with Tom.

"Very important," Tom said with a nod as he kept walking. Knowing the butler was going to keep asking questions if he didn't stop him, he walked into his bedroom and shut the door in the face of the nosy butler.

Chapter 96 - Sort Of

Once Tom picked up his cell phone, he noticed he had about three missed call notifications. He smiled when he noticed two out of the three missed calls were from Lucy. Why was she calling him? It wasn't like she was in trouble or anything, right? He had planned on not reaching out to her until it was time for their dinner, but seeing how she had called him, he decided to return her call.

When he saw that the last call he had missed was Jade's call, he dialed her line immediately, since she wasn't the type to call, especially not during the day.

"Hey! Are you okay?" He asked immediately the call connected.

Jade smiled, "I'm fine. I just wanted to find out how things are going with you and your neighbor girlfriend since I stopped hearing from you," she said, and Tom sighed.

"I'm sorry about that. I figured you would be very busy, and I didn't want to be a bother," Tom said apologetically as he sat by the edge of the bed.

"Well, you bothered me by not keeping me updated. What's going on? Any progress?" Jade asked, brushing off his excuse.

"Well... for starters, I'm having dinner with her tonight," Tom announced, making Jade squeal in excitement.

"So fast?" Jade asked, unable to believe how fast things were going.

"Well, a lot has happened in this sort while...." Tom said and started filling her in on everything she had missed.

"Hold on. Do you mean to tell me that she is best friends with Bryan's fiancee? Are you serious?" She sounded very surprised.

"Yeah. We were equally surprised."

"If you ask me, I will say maybe this is actually fate. You both were destined to meet one way or the other," Jade said thoughtfully.

"Maybe."

"Go on with the story," Jade urged him.

"Did I already tell you she works in my office as my personal assistant now?" Tom asked, and Jade burst into a peal of laughter.

"Are you kidding me?"

"I'm not. She wanted to get me fired, so I had to make my move, first" Tom explained, while Jade giggled at the absurdity of the whole thing.

"Let's just hope that she will be as forgiving as she is decent, cause I won't forgive you if you make a fool of me this way. When do you intend to tell her the truth, anyway?"

"Once I'm convinced beyond reasonable doubt that she is not like the others. You know when it comes to someone to marry, I can't afford to make a mistake," Tom said, taking in a deep breath, as he contemplated on whether or not to tell Jade about Anita. He decided to leave that for some other time.

"I don't think anyone can afford to make I mistake... But I understand what you mean," Jade said with a nod.

"Enough about me. Sup with you? How is that case going? Have you been able to locate the missing witness?" Tom asked, recalling that Jade had mentioned something about her only witness going into hiding.

Jade sighed deeply, "Not yet..."

"Do you want me to help you? I could ask Harry to contact some persons to look into it," Tom offered.

"You think he can do that?" Jade asked doubtfully.

"If there is any person who can do that, it is Harry. Why do you think he is my right-hand man?" Tom asked, and Jade sighed yet again.

"Alright. I will appreciate it if he can. But I will be grateful if he can also keep it a secret. I don't want anyone to spook my witness," She pleaded.

"I understand. I will tell him that," Tom said before remembering to ask something that has been bothering him, "Are you seeing anyone yet?" He asked hopefully.

"Judging by how busy I am, when do you think I have the time to meet anyone?" She asked dryly.

"Is it because you don't have the time that you are not going out with anyone, or you don't even have the time because you don't want to go out with anyone?" Tom asked knowingly.

"Did mum ask you and Bryan to hound me? Why are you both so interested in my love life? I guess it is true what they say that once people find love, they start hounding others around them to do the same," Jade said, sounding amused.

"Don't try to change the subject. It's been four years already since..."

"Can we not talk about that?" Jade asked, cutting him off very quickly.

"It's unfair of you to ask me not to talk about it when we know that if the situation was reversed you would try to have my back this way," Tom said sadly.

"I found out that the girl that died in that accident with him wasn't his cousin as his parents claimed. She was someone he was planning to get married to," Jade confided, with glazed eyes.

"What? He was planning to get married to someone else?" Tom asked incredulously.

"Apparently she was pregnant with his child. He didn't want to tell me about it, and his parents tried to keep it from me too," Jade said with a burst of humorless laughter, "So even though I feel sad that he is dead, I'm also mad that he not only was cheating but was planning on getting married without informing me. How do you express your anger at a dead person? Honestly, Tom? I'm not interested in getting into a relationship with anyone. I will rather lick my wounds alone," Jade said in an emotionless voice that tore at Tom's heart.

Tom was tempted to ask her when and how she found out about it, but he figured that satisfying his curiosity wasn't the most important thing at the moment. His baby sister was hurting and he needed to comfort her, "If you don't have anything doing at the moment why don't you take a break and come down here so we spend some time together, while we find your witness? I could send a jet to pick you up, and take you back if something urgent comes up, what do you say?" Tom asked hopefully.

Jade smiled, "Thanks for the offer, but I can't leave while the case is still on, and my witness is missing. But don't worry, once this case is over, I will come immediately. I promise." Vissit novelbin(.)c.om for updates

"Alright then. I will let you know after I talk to Harry."

"Thanks, Tommy. I love you," she said, making the sides of Tom's lips pull up in a smile when he remembered how she used to refer to him as Tommy when she was still a toddler.

"I love you too, Jady," he said and Jade giggled since that was the name Tom used to call her when she was a kid and always called him Tommy.

After hanging up the call, Tom dialed Lucy's line, but she didn't take the call. He tried again, and when she still didn't take the call, he decided to get busy with other things and just see her during dinner.

Meanwhile, at the clothes shop, Lucy moved around with Anita from one dress line to the other, while Anita kept finding faults with all the dresses she was handed. After a while Lucy got tired, "Where are you wearing the dress to? Is it a party?" She asked, trying not to let her impatience show in her voice.

She didn't understand why Anita had to be so picky for something as simple as a dress. She didn't see any reason to be shopping for a single dress for over thirty minutes when she spent less than that time shopping for more than ten clothes.

"Not exactly a party, but it is a very important meeting that I need to attend. I need a gown that looks corporate, and sexy at the same time," Anita said with a smile while her eyes kept moving around.

Lucy sighed, wondering what kind of a meeting it was, and why she would need to look sexy to attend a meeting. Was she involved with someone already? No. She had said she was waiting for the

right man. Was there someone she liked, then? Someone she was planning to get involved with? "I guess the person you like will be attending that meeting?" Lucy asked, trying not to sound too curious, or sound like she was prying into Anita's life.

"Sort of," she said, choosing not to give Lucy too much information until after her first meeting with Thomas Hank.

Sort of? That meant she didn't like Tom? No. Lucy thought with a slight frown. Even though she wanted to keep her distance from Tom, she also wasn't sure she wanted to see him heartbroken. Besides, if Anita didn't want him, that would mean she would be stuck with Tom, and that wasn't a part of her plan in any way. She had to make sure Anita likes Tom too. She was sure that Anita would like Tom if she spent more time with him, and got to know him. Tom was a cool guy after all, especially when he wasn't being too bold and coming on to her very strongly.

She needed to come up with a way to throw them both together without being too obvious about it. Perhaps she could suggest they all go see a movie together? And then halfway through the movie, she would excuse herself? That could work. She just wouldn't tell either of them that the other person would be tagging along.. Surely, Tom wouldn't mind seeing a movie with her since they were friends, especially when he wasn't talking crazy stuff about her undies and sex.

Chapter 97 - Not Doing It

"Hello!" Sonia greeted, flashing Jeff a wide smile once she opened the door and saw him standing there with Mia.

Jeff returned her smile as he and Mia walked past her into the house. Once she shut the door behind them, Jeff turned to her, "Hi! I'm..."

"Jeff Rawlings. I know who you are. Bryan's manager, right?" Sonia asked, making him flash her an impressed smile.

"Hello, Mia! It's good to see you again," Sonia commented, since Mia had left just a couple of hours ago.

Mia simply smiled at her and gave her a curt nod, while she waited for Jeff to state the reason for their visit. "I learned that Bryan hurt himself, so I'm here to see him," Jeff explained.

"I didn't hurt myself, she hurt me!" Bryan countered from the doorway of the passageway, standing on one foot. He had come out since he didn't trust Sonia to not do something mischievous.

Jeff looked from Sonia to Bryan, and then exchanged a look with Mia before returning his attention once again to Sonia who was looking at Bryan with an innocent expression.

"What are you talking about, babez?" She asked, blinking at him, but Bryan ignored her and kept looking at Jeff.

"So what? You want her out of your house?" Mia asked, wanting to know what Bryan was thinking before they gave him the news.

"Why would I want my fiancee out of my house?" Bryan asked with a scoff, making Jeff and Mia exchange a confused look.

"Give me a hand, darling," Bryan said to Sonia who quickly hurried to his side and offered her shoulder for support as she helped him walk into the living room, and moved away after he sat down on the couch.

Bryan patted the space beside him, indicating that she sit down. Knowing that he was back to playing the role of a doting fiance, Sonia sat down dutifully and rested her head on his shoulder, making Jeff and Mia exchange a look once again, since neither of them could understand what was going on.

Did this mean that Bryan and Sonia were getting along now, and were in a relationship? If no, why were they still acting like a couple in front of them when they all knew he and Mia were aware that it was a fake engagement, Jeff mused as he signalled to Mia to get the wheelchair from where they had left it outside.

Matt looked around the living room before going to sit on the couch opposite Bryan, "How is your leg? And where is Matt? I thought he was staying with you?" Jeff asked once Mia walked out to go do as he had instructed her. Fôllôw *n*ew stories at n*o*/v(e)lb/in(.)com

"Well, my leg hurts, but I'm glad my fiancee is here to take care of me. Matt left this morning to take care of his business," Bryan said as he leaned back on the couch patting Sonia's hair lovingly.

"I see. By the way, we got you a gift. Something to help you move around easily," Jeff announced as the door opened and Mia rolled in the wheelchair.

Bryan eyed the wheelchair distastefully, but tried to hide his displeasure, "Thanks for the gift. I promise to put it to good use. Baby, do you mind getting me a glass of water?" He asked, looking at Sonia with a sweet smile which Sonia returned as she sat up.

"Don't worry, I will go get it," Mia offered, heading the direction of the kitchen before Bryan stopped her.

"Don't worry about it. I'm sure you have more important things to do instead of serving me a glass of water," Bryan said with a wide smile, reminding both Mia and Bryan of what Sonia had said that day at the airport, "I don't get to see my fiancee often, so I want her to do it herself," Bryan said, stopping Mia from leaving.

"Don't worry, Mia. I will get it myself," Sonia assured Mia before walking away to get the water.

Once she was out of earshot Jeff hurried over to the spot beside Bryan, and then jerked his head towards the kitchen, signalling for Mia to go and stall Sonia so he could speak to Bryan alone. Mia got his message and quickly excused herself.

"First things first, did you mean what you said earlier? Did she really hurt your leg?" Jeff asked in a low voice, with his brows furrowed in a concerned frown.

Knowing Jeff, Bryan could tell that if he so much as said that Sonia had hurt his leg, Jeff wouldn't hesitate to bundle her out of the house within the next second and damn every consequence. And if the CEO who was his personal agent got wind of it, he wouldn't mind getting Sonia arrested and press charges against her for hurting their golden star.

In as much as Sonia annoyed the hell out of him, he couldn't do that to her. Especially not when they had a standing agreement, and when he planned on frustrating her. Bryan shook his head, "I actually slipped in the bathroom, while she was in the bedroom. I just wanted to make her feel guilty for not joining me in the shower as I wanted her to. Don't tell her I told you that though," Bryan said with an embarrassed smile.

They were supposed to share the shower together? Since when? "What is going on?" Jeff asked Bryan in a whisper.

"What do you mean?" Bryan asked, looking at Jeff with a blank expression.

"We both know that whatever is going on between you both isn't real. So I need to know what is going on and why you both are acting this way in front of us," Jeff said, looking at Bryan with searching eyes as if he could detect any lie Bryan would tell.

Bryan gave him a reassuring smile, "Nothing is going on. We just decided to give it a shot. She isn't as bad as I thought she was," Bryan said with a shrug, and Jeff nodded, flashing Bryan a relieved smile.

"That is really good to know. That means what I'm about to say now won't upset you too much," Jeff said cautiously, making Bryan narrow his eyes, since he knew without a doubt that whatever Jeff was going to say next was going to be very annoying.

"What is it?"

"Well, you know you have so many jobs lined up for next week... But unfortunately, because of your twisted ankle you can't do everything..."

"So?" Bryan asked impatiently, knowing that at the end of this long speech was something very offensive, and he wanted to get right to it.

"So we called the movie producer, as well as the directors of those companies..."

"And?" Bryan asked in frustration, knowing that Jeff was stalling because he was probably not comfortable with the message he had been sent to deliver.

Jeff took in a deep breath, "In order to satisfy everyone, the CEO wants you and your fiancee to star in a reality show..."

"What?" Bryan asked, not sure he caught what Jeff had just said.

"Yeah. By now you should know how these things work. If he doesn't do this..."

Bryan was no longer listening. He quickly stood up wanting to walk over to his room. The moment he took his first step, pain shot through his leg, reminding him that his ankle was hurt. He swore loudly as he collapsed on the couch.

On hearing his voice both Mia and Sonia who had been talking in the kitchen rushed out to see why he had shouted.

Bryan gritted his teeth as he grabbed Jeff's phone which was on the couch between them and quickly dialed the CEO's line before Jeff could stop him.

"I was just going to call you. Have you seen him? How is his leg? Have you been able to tell him about the reality show yet?" The CEO asked once he received the call.

"I AM NOT DOING IT. There is absolutely no way I'm doing something as ridiculous as that! Not in a million years!" Bryan snapped at him angrily.

"I have already talked to the producer and directors. As a matter of fact, they just left my office a couple of minutes ago. Think of this as a movie you are shooting with just one actress, from the comfort of your home," the CEO said in a tone that told Bryan his decision was final.

"You can't just come up with something like this and expect me to go along with it!" Bryan hissed angrily, while Sonia looked from Bryan to Mia in confusion, wondering what was going on.

"The CEO wants the both of you to star in a reality show," Mia whispered to Sonia, whose eyes rounded in surprise at the news.

"Think about it. It's going to be a one of its kind show. No celebrity or agency has ever done this before. We will be the first, setting the pace for others to follow. This way you not only get most of your jobs done, but we can also make money while you just sit in your home," the CEO said, trying to make Bryan see reason.

If it was another star under the agency he wouldn't have bothered explaining himself this much. But Bryan was his favorite star. He had been the very first actor he nurtured right from when he was a nobody. He had simply been an agent until after Bryan had become famous. That had been when he decided to own an entertainment agency, and it had been Bryan who he had given the honor of choosing the name for the agency. Even after he had become very successful and the agency had grown with so many top celebrities, he still personally handled all of Bryan's bookings.

"How on earth did you come up with such a ridiculous idea?" Bryan hissed in annoyance, and when he noticed the way Jeff glanced at Mia and Sonia, Sonia's Instagram caption suddenly flashed before his eyes.

Of course it was Sonia! It had to be her! This woman was programmed to frustrate him. If he had any doubt before now that this witch was going to be the end of him, this just reaffirmed everything he had been thinking since he met her. She was out to ruin him.

"Bryan, you are going to do this whether you like it or not. For your sake, I hope you will like It, since the producer will be coming over to your place with the camera crew tomorrow to set up everything and run the script by you," The CEO said before hanging up.

"By chance, the CEO didn't see my Instagram post, did he?" Sonia whispered to Mia when she noticed how Bryan was glaring at her.

Not wanting the blame to be put on her, even though she intended to take every credit for the show if it turned out a success as she believed it would, Mia flashed her an apologetic smile, "He did."

"As if he doesn't hate me enough already," Sonia muttered under her breath as she walked over to where Bryan was seated with his glass of water.

"I didn't mean for this to happen," she apologized without meeting his gaze, but Bryan only snorted without saying a word.

"He didn't have any other choice.. They were all upset about having their schedules affected because of you," Jeff said, trying to make Bryan see reasons, but Bryan said nothing as he threw Jeff's phone on his lap.

Chapter 98 - Irresistible

Lucy stood in front of the mirror in her bedroom checking her appearance once more to ensure that she was not overly dressed for the dinner date. She had decided to pair her sexy sequin dress with a pair of black low-heeled sandals and had also chosen to leave her glasses behind and let her hair down as she knew Tom liked it. This night was for him after all. Once she was sure she looked good to go, she stepped out of her apartment with a bottle of wine in hand.

It was the first time since her arrival that they hadn't talked all day. After he had missed her call earlier, and she had missed his too, she had tried returning his call, but he had missed it again, and had failed to call back, so she had decided to let it be until they meet for dinner. She had to admit that it had somehow felt strange not hearing from him all day.

Although she still didn't like him bothering her all the time, she realized that he was gradually growing on her, and she was becoming more comfortable with his presence and having him around... As a friend. Just a friend, Lucy added mentally.

Standing in front of his door now, she took in a deep breath before raising her hand to press on the doorbell Although she was still feeling very anxious if the knots in her belly were anything to judge by, but she figured it was best she did it now and got it out of the way so that she could focus on more important things.

Tom opened the door less than a minute later, dressed in a brown turtleneck polo and faded jean trousers. His hair was combed back, and he looked even more handsome now than the first time she had met him.

Once he saw her, his face lit up with a boyish grin she had no business getting used to, and she noticed the crinkles at both corners of his eyes.

"Hi!" Lucy said awkwardly as she took note of his dressing. He was dressed in simple house wear, while she was dressed like she was attending a party.

"Hi! I see you dressed up. Now I wish I did," Tom said, looking down at himself before flashing her an apologetic smile, even though his eyes seemed to be mocking her.

"I wish you did too," Lucy said with an awkward smile.

She felt embarrassed and stupid for dressing up this much when it was just dinner with the guy next door. It wasn't like they were in a romantic relationship or this was a real date. What had she been thinking? Why did she have to put so much effort into dressing up? To think she had even applied mild make-up, Lucy thought, her face heating up in embarrassment.

Now he was going to think she was horny and was dressed this way because she couldn't wait to have him. She briefly contemplated turning around and returning to her apartment to take off the clothes she was wearing.

As if he could read her mind Tom opened the door wider, "Come in. It doesn't matter what I'm wearing. It's just so good to see this part of you again. I'm glad you dressed up, and let left your

glasses," Tom said as holding out his arm to her. From the gleam she could see in his eyes, she could tell he was laughing at her.

Although she didn't think any of this was necessary, Lucy reluctantly took his arm and let him lead her inside the house, "Why does the house look so diff..." the rest of her words trailed off her breath caught in surprise when she realized that the house looked different only because he had actually made it different. He had turned off all the lights in the living room, and the only source of light in the house came from the round dining table, where two lit candles which were enclosed in a glass candle holder were standing. Different dishes were arranged on the table, and there were two wine glasses.

A candlelit dinner? Did he set this up himself? For some odd reason, she felt touched that he had gone through the stress of trying to make the night special instead of jumping on her the moment she walked through the door like she had thought he would, judging by how he had been behaving since the past couple of days, "You didn't have to," she murmured without looking at him. Now she could manage to forgive him for not dressing up. He had also made a big deal out of it, and she doubted it would have made sense had she showed up wearing a jogger and tank top.

"Do you like it?" Tom asked, looking at her expectantly. He had read somewhere that most ladies considered candlelit dinners to be very romantic.

Lucy turned to look at him, and her heart fluttered in her chest when she met his gaze. Who was this guy? One minute he was acting like a hopeless romantic, the next he was giving her the vibes of a playboy. She really needed to be careful around this guy.

She swallowed hard as she looked away from him, "It looks lovely," she said, looking at the candles. When her eyes fell on the two wine glasses on the table again, she realized two things, first was that she was still holding on to the wine with her other hand, and the second was that her other arm was still in the crook of Tom's arm.

She withdrew her arm, before offering the wine to Tom, "Here, I didn't want to come empty-handed," she said without meeting his gaze.

"Thanks," Tom said as he took the wine from her before leading her to the table where he pulled out a seat.

"This isn't the dining set I saw the last time I was here, is it?" Lucy asked as she sat down. She knew she would have taken note of it had this been the furniture in the house when she visited the first time, and she noticed there were just two seats at the table.

"I'm surprised you noticed. The other one wouldn't have been appropriate for a dinner date, would it?" Tom asked, thinking of the rectangular family-sized dining set with six chairs, which he had inherited from the previous occupants of the house.

"How did you get such a nice set of furniture on such short notice?" Lucy asked once again as she admired the table and chair which seemed like they had been made with quality materials.

"Remember that my friend? The one whose house I took you to the first night we met?" He asked, and went on when she gave him a nod, "He gave them to me," Tom said as he opened the wine she had brought with her and poured it into the two glasses since it was still chilled.

"I see. Must be nice to have such a wealthy friend," she said with a small smile, "I guess this was why you couldn't take my calls today. You must have been very busy," Lucy said as she looked at everything on the table. Maybe it wasn't such a bad thing that he hadn't been able to take his call earlier. If this was his idea of a dinner date, then she would have fallen short. She had thought of preparing just baked beans, beef, and vegetable stew. Seeing the different manner of food on the table, she was glad she had he had failed to pick his call. Fôllôw *n*ew stories at no/v(e)lb/in(.)com

"Yes, I was very busy. I had a lot to do, I'm sorry I wasn't close to my phone," Tom said as he sat back in his seat, nursing his glass of wine while he admired the glow of the candle on the part of her face which wasn't cast in shadows.

"It's fine," Lucy assured him as she silently wondered when they were going to end the small talk and start the activity for the night. Or was he waiting for her to make the next move? She wondered as she sipped from her glass without looking at him.

"Did you want something?" Tom remembered to as, since he still didn't know why she had called.

"I just wanted to find out if you needed help setting up," Lucy said, and Tom nodded.

"You didn't have to worry, I had someone over to help me," Tom said, and Lucy's lips rounded as she gave him a nod. Of course, there was no way he could have done this himself.

"So how is your friend? And how was your outing with her?" Tom asked as he watched her. Although he had been drawn to her not because of her beauty, but because of her naivety and innocence, the more he watched her the more he realized how beautiful she truly was.

"She is okay... A little too proper for me, but she's fine," Lucy said with a small smile as she sipped from her glass.

"Proper?" Tom asked, wondering what she meant.

"She is just a perfectionist, but not in a bad way," Lucy said, not wanting to make it sound like a bad thing since she thought of Anita as Tom's future girlfriend, but didn't know she was his exgirlfriend.

"Ah! I see. Let's eat before the food turns cold," Tom suggested as he picked up his cutlery and started eating, while Lucy did the same.

"Hm, this tastes really nice. You didn't prepare this, did you?" Lucy asked after taking the second bite.

"Seeing the satisfaction on your face, I wish I did," Tom said with a shadow of a smile on his lips.

Flirt! He was flirting with her right now, Lucy thought, choosing to focus on her food, she said nothing to him.

"Did you hear from Jasmine and her sister? They mentioned something about a dinner tomorrow evening," Tom said, and Lucy raised her head to look at him while chewing.

Was she to tell him that Alicia wasn't Jasmine's sister, but her wife? Lucy wondered. She should give the couple the chance to tell Tom themselves rather than butt in. It wasn't like any of it was her business anyway, even if Tom decided to be the father of their child.

"Lu?" Tom called. Although she didn't like just anyone calling her Lu, it didn't sound offensive coming from Tom.

"Yes, I heard from them. I didn't know you were going to be there too," Lucy said as she chewed on her food, remembering how she had shut her door in their faces after accepting their dinner invitation. That had been rude, but she was sure they would understand, seeing as they had woken her from sleep.

"You are coming, right? Let's go together, okay? I feel uncomfortable having dinner alone with them, but your presence there will make things less awkward," Tom said, making Lucy look at him curiously.

"Why do you feel uncomfortable?" Lucy asked as she continued to eat, while looking at him.

"I think both sisters have a crush on me. I don't want to come between them, or have them fight over me," Tom explained with a serious expression on his face which made laughter bubble inside Lucy, but she tried to maintain a straight face.

If only he knew what they wanted, "I see. I guess they must find you irresistible as most ladies do," Lucy said in amusement as she took a sip from her wine.

"Unfortunately the only lady I want doesn't seem to find me irresistible," Tom said in a low tone as he gazed into her eyes.

Her heart fluttered in her chest. She doesn't? Who wouldn't find him irresistible? Lucy thought to herself.

"Do you?" Tom asked, and she looked at him in surprise, wondering if she had spoken out loud or he could now read her thoughts.

"Do I what?" Lucy asked, hoping he was asking about something else.

"Do you find me irresistible?" Tom asked, making her heart skip a beat.

Why was he asking her that all of a sudden? The lady he liked was Anita, and she was the one he should be asking, "Why do you ask?" Lucy asked nervously, not liking where the conversation was going.

"That is because I think I could use you as a yardstick to judge her.. So tell me honestly, what do you think about me? Do you find me irresistible?" Tom asked, looking at her curiously.

Chapter 99 - Be My Girlfriend.

Tom raised a brow as he waited to hear her response, while he stared at her directly. Her gaze shifted from her wineglass to his face, and once their eyes locked, her heart hitched.

This person before her didn't look like Tom, her driver or neighbor. He just looked like... Like a man. This reminded her once again that the person asking her this question wasn't her driver or her neighbor, but the man she had a one-night stand with.

Lucy cleared her throat and raised her glass of wine to wet her lips and throat which suddenly seemed very dry. Why did she have to be so flustered by such a simple question? All he wanted to know was if she thought he was irresistible, right?

"I don't think there is a single woman who wouldn't find you irresistible," Lucy said with an awkward smile as she shifted her gaze away from him and returned her attention to the food in front of her.

They had not even gone halfway with their meal and it was getting cold already because they were too busy talking. It would be so sad for such fine food to be wasted.

"You are going round my question without giving me an answer, Lu."

Her heart skipped a beat when he called her name like that. Why did her name sound so different coming from his lips? Wasn't it the same name that Sonia and her family called her often? Why did it make her heart flutter every time he called her that way? Maybe it was the wine. She was drinking too much again. Every time she had too much to drink she always made a mistake. She didn't want to make another mistake tonight.

"What more do you want to hear?" Lucy asked warily as she pushed the glass of wine away from her front. The last thing she wanted was a repeat of their first night where she would be too drunk to remember anything.

"I believe a simple yes or no to my question will do."

"And if I say yes?" She asked, looking at him with a slightly furrowed brow. She really did not want him to misunderstand her and start to think that she was developing feelings for him or wanted anything to do with him, apart from being neighbors and maybe colleagues at work.

"I already told you. It would give me the confidence I need to pursue the lady I'm interested in," Tom said, and Lucy nodded.

If saying yes would help him gain confidence, then yes it is. She would only need to arrange her words in a way that wouldn't give room for any misunderstanding.

"Although I'm not interested in guys and the whole relationship package, I think you are pretty cool, and I would find you irresistible if guys were my thing," Lucy explained making Tom roll his eyes.

"So?" Tom asked, making her frown.

"So what?" Lucy asked with an annoyed frown.

"I said it's a yes or no question. No need for all that explanation," Tom told her dryly.

Lucy swallowed, "As long as you understand the explanation, the answer is yes," Lucy said, and Tom flashed her a smile which did more harm than good to her nerves.

So she found him irresistible? That was very good to know, Tom thought, and his smile widened into a grin, "That wasn't so hard now, was it? Now I have all the strength and motivation I need to pursue her relentlessly," Tom said with newfound confidence.

"Yes! You shouldn't give up!" Lucy said with an enthusiastic smile that made Tom chuckle since she was giving him the go-ahead to keep bugging her life.

Lucy on the other hand assumed he was laughing because he was happy, "Now that I have answered your question, can I eat before the food gets completely cold?" Lucy pleaded with a small smile, and Tom nodded vigorously, using his hand to gesture to the food in front of her, to go ahead.

Seeing how happy he looked, she could only hope that Tom wouldn't get hurt by Anita. One thing she had learned from spending time with Anita was that Anita wasn't the type who might be contented with a simple person like Tom. There was something about Anita. Something she couldn't exactly place her finger on, but it made her want to be careful around her.

"A penny for your thoughts," Tom said, as he had been watching her for a couple of minutes and noticed that she seemed like she was lost in her thoughts.

"My thoughts are worth more than a penny. You'll have to pay more if you want to hear them," Lucy said as she continued eating.

Tom smiled. He liked how no matter how uncomfortable he made her feel, she always seemed to bounce back, and their conversations always remained easy. "I guess I can't afford to hear it. But can I ask you a question?" Tom asked, and Lucy shrugged indifferently.

"Assuming you were into men, would you marry for love or money?"

"Are those the only two reasons people get married?" Lucy asked with a scoff, as she continued eating.

"What other reasons do people get married?" Tom asked as he watched her eat with interest.

"There is friendship, trust, protection, and a lot more. I don't think I can be in a relationship or get married to someone I don't trust, or who doesn't trust me. So whether I marry for love or money, I'd rather he is my friend. And not only my friend, but also someone I can trust, and rely on to protect me... That is IF I was into guys," she finished.

Friendship, trust, and protection. "Of the three things you mentioned which of them is most important to you?" Tom asked after a while.

"Trust. If I can't trust a person to always be honest with me, then I don't want anything to do with them. We can't be friends, and I don't think he can protect me either," Lucy said, making Tom's heart skip a beat.

"I see," Tom murmured.

What was he going to do if he ended up winning her heart and then she leaves him because of all the lies he has told her? Would she understand him?

Lucy looked at him, "By the way, earlier, I was just wondering... What would you do if she turns you down? I mean the lady you like," Lucy asked, trying not to sound too concerned since it wasn't really her business.

Tom sighed, feeling his heart grow heavy at the thought of that, "I don't want to dwell on that possibility," Tom said, making Lucy sigh.

He must really love her a lot. She had to try her best to make things work out for him. Not just because she wanted him out of her life, but even more so because somehow she didn't want to see him get hurt or heartbroken.

Even though she had thought the worst of him, and assumed him to be a playboy initially, she had also noticed that no woman has come over to his place, and he didn't seem to have many friends either, else why would he try to spend every spare time he had with her? The fact that he had not

slept with her when she was drunk was also another point. He was naughty with words no doubt, but he also seemed like a decent guy regardless of his playboy looks, and she genuinely wanted him to be happy.

"I have a feeling that I might have asked this question before, but I can't recall your response. How many ladies have you dated in the past?" Lucy asked, wanting to change the subject, and at the same time find out how much experience he had when it came to handling women.

Tom looked at her for some seconds without saying a word, as he tried to come up with the best way to answer her question since he didn't want to add to the many lies he had already told her, "Three."

Just three? "How long did those relationships last, and why did they end?" Lucy asked, wanting to know who had done the dumping.

"You seem very curious about me tonight," Tom said with a small smile.

"Not exactly. I'm just trying to know how much experience you have when it comes to relationships so that I can know how to help you," Lucy assured him, and he gave her a nod.

"I see. The longest was six months and the shortest three months. The relationships ended because I wasn't what they wanted. Maybe I wasn't giving them enough attention, or I wasn't giving them enough money. I guess being in a relationship requires more than simply being irresistible," he said with a wry smile.

She didn't think it was just about attention or money, "Hm... What did you do? Where did you go wrong?" Lucy asked thoughtfully.

"I don't know," Tom said with a shake of his head.

"You didn't cheat?" Lucy asked suspiciously.

"I would never do that," Tom said, and Lucy eyed him skeptically.

"I'm serious."

"If you say so. But I still think we need to know why those relationships didn't last. The only way you can get it right this time is by understanding what happened in the past so that you can avoid making the same mistakes. It will be pointless for you to go through all this stress to win her heart, only to lose her like the others, don't you agree?" Lucy asked, and Tom pursed his lips thoughtfully.

"You really want to know?" He asked, looking at her as an idea started to form in his head.

"Don't you want to know?" Lucy asked with a scoff.

"Why don't we find out then?" Tom asked, and she narrowed her eyes at him.

"Don't tell me you want me to go and start meeting your exes and asking them about you," Lucy said incredulously, as that was the only way she could imagine that they would find out what went wrong in his past relationships.

"No. I think I have an even better idea," Tom said with a mischievous smile. Geett the latest *no*vels on no/v/elbin(.)c/om

"What idea?" Lucy asked, not liking the glint she was seeing in his eyes.

"Be my girlfriend."

Chapter 100 - Not A Lie

Wait!" Tom raised his hand to stop her before she could open her mouth to voice her objection.

"Just hear me out first. I understand you are not interested in guys or relationships... I'm not asking you to be my girlfriend for real. Just let me practice how to be a good boyfriend with you, and then you can point out my flaws while we are at it, and make me an ideal boyfriend," Tom said, looking at her hopefully.

Lucy let out an awkward laugh, "I don't think that is a good idea. I don't even have any relationship experience, so how am I supposed to make you the perfect boyfriend?" She asked in amusement.

"Exactly! You could also learn a thing or two about guys and relationships in the process. Haven't you ever wondered what being in a relationship would be like? You could just do this for fun. It's a win-win for us both," Tom suggested with a smile, but Lucy wasn't smiling.

"You should get someone else to date you for this experiment. It doesn't have to be me."

"You expect me to break a stranger's heart? There is no way I can tell someone else I want to practice something like this with them. You are a perfect choice since I'm sure I can't break your heart," Tom said confidently.

He wasn't trying to lie to her this time. No. This wasn't a lie. All he wanted was a fair chance to love her and show her that she was capable of love and being in a relationship. He would tell her the truth by the end of their fake relationship since there was no way he could tell her the truth when he was yet to win her heart.

Fake girlfriend? Lucy wasn't sure she liked the idea. In fact, not that she wasn't sure. She knew she didn't like the idea.

"Again, don't forget that if we get this right, I will be in a stable relationship for the first time in my life, and it will be all thanks to you," Tom added when he saw the hesitation on her face.

Seeing how excited and happy he was about it, she sighed. What harm could come from doing it? It wasn't like it was going to be a real relationship anyway. Besides Sonia and her family had been badgering her for so long about being in a relationship of any kind... So maybe this wouldn't be such a bad idea. She could tell them all that she was dating, and once it was over she would tell them she found out relationships really weren't her thing, and maybe they would finally give her a break.

"I will only do that on one condition," Lucy said.

"I will do anything," Tom assured her with a bright smile, happy to see that she was giving it a thought.

"The company is off-limits. No one at the company can know that we are in a relationship. This means that at work you are simply my driver. No naughty talks or silly games in my office or around the company premises. My job is very important to me, and if we are going to do this, I will like you to understand that," Lucy said, looking at him squarely in his eyes.

If she were someone else, he probably would have been concerned that she was saying that simply because she was ashamed of him... But Lucy didn't strike him as that type, "Just the company is off-limits, right?" Tom asked.

Lucy cleared her throat, "Yes."

"Fair enough," he said with a nod since that meant he could do whatever else he wanted with her outside the company. Findd new *s*tories on nov/e(l)bin(.)com

"Anything else you want to add now?" He asked with a slightly raised brow when he noticed how her brow had furrowed thoughtfully.

"How long will this experiment last?" Lucy asked curiously.

"Until you think I'm good enough to go into a real relationship without ruining it," Tom said, making Lucy cock her head to the side.

"Does that mean the duration depends on me? Once I say it's over, we can end everything?" She asked curiously and then sighed in relief when Tom gave her a nod.

Although he knew she hadn't agreed because of all the reasons he had given her, he was glad she decided to go along with it, "Yes. At least that way I will know why they all left," Tom said as he picked up his glass and drank from it. He really prayed his plan would work, and she would fall in love with him before the end of all this. The moment she says the magic words to him, he would confess it all to her and hope she understands.

Lucy didn't know how to respond to that, so she picked up her wine glass and sipped from it. It seemed like he had been hurt a lot by all the ladies he had been with in the past, and from all indications, he might get hurt again. Or maybe not. Maybe she was being too hasty in judging Anita. Hadn't Anita said a lot of nice things about him earlier? That meant she had noticed some of his charming qualities, right? And even if Anita ended up being a very demanding girlfriend, Lucy preferred to believe that Tom's love for her would be strong enough for him to be patient with her and change her.

Lucy began to wonder how she would be able to successfully matchmake him with Anita if she was acting as his fake girlfriend. They would definitely have to keep their relationship a secret from Anita. Maybe this would give her a better chance at matchmaking them? Even if they were not going to start dating immediately, throwing them together often would help in making Anita more aware of Tom. That way by the time he was ready to ask her out officially, she would be more than willing to say yes to him.

"I'm curious about something. Why did you agree to do this? Are you eager to help me get her because you want to honor your promise so I don't quit working for you, or is there another reason?" Tom asked, curiously.

Don't I just wish it was that simple? Lucy thought warily. She would rather he continued to believe that she was doing him a favor by being his fake girlfriend, rather than tell him that she was trying to use him to get Sonia and her family off her back so that they would stop worrying about her so much.

She paused when something else occurred to her. How would this new arrangement affect their previous arrangement? They were supposed to have sex after dinner, right? Were they still going to do it? Why was she beginning to feel like she had just complicated things the more?

"Are we still going to have sex tonight?" Lucy suddenly blurted out before she could stop herself, making Tom who had just taken a sip from his wine glass choke on it.