

Chapter 83

"I don't know if this is a good idea," Riley said while sitting on Adrian's lap.

"Exercising your legs will make you feel better, Hun," Adrian suggested while driving his electronic wheelchair to the beach.

A groan left Riley's lips. She whined, "Why did you have to push so hard!"

"You weren't complaining last night," Adrian pointed out, and he laughed. "Did you forget the words that came out of your mouth? Harder! More -"

"Stop it!" Riley chortled as she covered her face. "Let's just go."

The couple was in their swimwear, eager to enjoy the beach. Adrian did not like the crowd. So, they had to go early in the morning to achieve this. To their surprise, they were not the only ones at the beach. The Wright couple were taking their young boy for a swim.

"Hi!" Riley waved upon seeing them.

"Oh, hello!" Gabrielle said back. She was in the water, carrying her son.

Not too far, Kyle was walking toward the coast. Riley was the first to greet him, "Good Morning, Mr. Wright."

Kyle nodded in Riley and Adrian's way and said with no enthusiasm, "Good morning."

'Well,' Riley thought. Kyle was not the most amiable man, but at least he responded.



"Good Morning. We will take our dip somewhere there," Adrian said to Kyle and Gabrielle, pointing to a farther part of the beach.

After an hour of swimming, Riley helped Adrian to the shore and into his wheelchair. This time, Riley could already walk without limping. 1

On the way back, Riley waved at the Wright couple, communicating, "We are heading back. It's nice to see you again."

"I'm impressed that Mr. King can swim in his leg condition," Kyle remarked, making Riley and Adrian turn their way.

"I was into sports, even before my accident. I did not let my leg problem define me," Adrian informed. Then, he watched as Gabrielle dipped Kenneth into the sea. He offered, "Would you like me to teach him?"

Kyle and Gabrielle looked at each other. Then, Gabrielle responded, "Don't you think he is too young? I mean, we teach him to hold his breath, but I don't know if he can already swim." 1

"You are on the right track, but toddlers can start learning to tread water. If you'd like, I can teach him right now," Adrian offered, and the Wright couple belatedly agreed. 1

Riley and Adrian were invited to the Ho'onanea Villa. Once there, Riley and Gabrielle settled at a poolside table. Adrian started teaching Kenneth how to tread in the pool. The entire time, Kyle stood next to his son.

"It starts with kicking," Adrian told Kenneth. Holding the toddler, he described, "Just like biking. You ride a bike, buddy?"

"Bike!" Kenneth exclaimed.

Kenneth had this small floater on, so Adrian sometimes let him go and

showed him how it was done. "While you kick, you turn like this."

After that introduction, Adrian asked Kenneth to keep looking at the sky, and they began rehearsing treading water.

"As a parent, you give him light touches to keep him afloat until he gets used to it," Adrian instructed Kyle.

It took only half an hour to teach Kenneth. After that, the boy trod alone for three seconds without his floater!

"Oh, my god! Great job, Baby!" Gabrielle exclaimed cheerfully, seeing her son's progress.

Kyle initially made a face but eventually admitted, "That was some technique. Look up the sky?"

"It helps them keep upright while learning to float," Adrian clarified.

"Ah," Kyle said, realizing what Adrian meant. "How do you know these things, Mr. King?" 

"I sponsor a sports camp for disabled children every year, and I have taught toddlers how to swim," Adrian revealed. "I have learned from my experience that physical activities can help support daily living and independence in those with disability."

"That's very nice of you, Mr. King," Gabrielle noted. Riley noticed Kyle did not say anything but remained very observant.

"Swimming can be good for Kenneth. The pressure from water immersion forces the respiratory muscles to work harder, which can improve the function and elasticity of the lungs," Adrian explained. I would suggest getting him started on swimming."