

## Wild Night 231

### Chapter 231 – Lean On Me

"Are you sure you don't want me to be here with you when your family arrives?" Tom asked Lucy when she kept trying to convince him to leave before the arrival of her parents and Lucas.

"Yes. I'm very sure," Lucy assured him with a smile.

Lucas had called to say their mother would be the only one staying with her in her apartment since it would be too small to accommodate them all. So her father and Lucas had decided to find a hotel closest to her apartment where they could lodge before coming down to meet her.

Tom had tried to convince her that they could use his apartment which was next to hers, instead of lodging in a hotel, but Lucy had politely turned down the offer.

"C'mon, Tom! They are my family, and I don't need protection from them. It's not like they're going to eat me or something," Lucy said in a lighter tone when Tom just kept staring at her as if he was searching for something on her face.

Tom let out a long breath, "I know. I'm just worried about you that's all. You promise to call me if anything comes up?"

"Nothing is going to come up. I need to go grocery shopping. My parents would nag me to death if they see how empty my refrigerator is," Lucy said thoughtfully when she opened her refrigerator and there was nothing much in it apart from snacks.

"If you give me a list of what you need, I could get them for you and have it delivered to your doorstep," Tom offered, wanting to at least do something for her.

"There is no way you can leave the house right now until things have been resolved," Tom reminded her when she looked at him as though she was going to turn down his offer. They both knew that if the people who worked in the same company with her had reacted that way to what they had read on the internet, then strangers would likely react in a worse manner if they saw her.

"I guess you're right," Lucy said with a sigh.

"Good. So I will have someone deliver it to you. Be alright, okay?" Tom said as he moved close to her and embraced her.

"I will. And thanks for today. I appreciate you standing up for me the way you did today, but let's try not to meet until all of this is resolved," Lucy told him with a small smile that didn't hide the sadness in her eyes as she broke the hug and pulled away from him.

Even if he wasn't saying it, she knew that he was under a lot of pressure because of her, and his action at the lobby of the company earlier on was only going to complicate things even more for him.

"Lucy..."

"I'm not asking us to break up or anything. We are in this relationship together, and I'm not selfish enough to want you to stand by me when I know it's going to end up causing problems for you too. Just until everything is resolved, let's not meet. Let's just focus on clearing this," Lucy pleaded.

"If Anita is behind this as we suspect, don't you think you are doing exactly what she wants you to do?" Tom asked with a slight frown as he watched her.

"Then what else can I do?" Lucy asked wearily.

"Lean on me, and don't push me away. Or are you doing this because Sonia broke up with Bryan?" Tom asked, making Lucy's brows pull together in a frown.

"Sonia broke up with Bryan?" Lucy asked in confusion.

"Yes. I didn't want to mention it. She broke up with him after she heard about all this. If you're worried about my reputation, don't worry. I can handle whatever comes," Tom promised as he took both her hands in his.

"I'm sure it's just a misunderstanding. I'll hear from Sonia when she gets here. Let's continue this conversation over the phone when you get home," Lucy said, as she gently prodded him towards the door.

Tom stuck out his lower lip, giving her a sad face when they got to the door and Lucy smiled at him, "You don't have to feel bad. Besides, do you want my family to meet you for the first time with your disguise costume on?" Lucy asked with a touch of humor, and Tom narrowed his eyes.

"Are you ashamed of my beards?" He asked rubbing his fake beards in a way that made her laugh softly.

"If only they were real. You can always meet them later. I just need to first talk to them and calm them," Lucy assured him.

"Fine. I'll call you when I get home. Don't forget to text me your grocery list," Tom said as he kissed her lightly on the lips before opening the door and walking away.

He took in a deep breath once he stepped outside, and let it out slowly. He could tell that she was forcing all the smiles and laughter just so that he wouldn't worry about her.

Once he got into his car, the substitute driver turned to look at him, "Where am I taking you to?"

"Take me back to the company," Tom said distractedly as he took out his phone to give Harry a call.

\*\*\*\*\*

Lucy hurried to the door when she heard the sound of the doorbell, and once she opened the door she was surprised to see Alicia standing there with Jasmine instead of Sonia who she was expecting.

Sonia had called her less than five minutes earlier to ask for directions since she seemed to have missed her way.

"Hi!" both ladies greeted in unison.

"Hi!" Lucy greeted as she looked from one to the other, wondering what they were doing at her door since she was sure they had likely seen the news on the internet.

"Can we come in?" Jasmine asked politely, and Lucy looked behind them, wondering why Sonia was yet to arrive, before stepping aside for them to get in.

"We saw the stuff about you all over social media. We would have come earlier but we noticed that you were with someone," Alicia announced as they walked in, and Jasmine sent Alicia a sharp look before clearing her throat.

"Uhm, we noticed that the only friend you seem to have is Tom, and since we didn't see him around we thought to come to check on you and spend some time with you," Jasmine explained.

"Oh, thank you!" Lucy said, at a loss for what to say as she hadn't been expecting this.

"You didn't do it, right?" Alicia asked before Jasmine could stop her, "You didn't kill that boy, right?" Alicia asked, looking at Lucy as though she was hoping everything she had read was false.

Lucy looked at Alicia, but couldn't find it in her to offer them any explanation. Although she thought they deserved an explanation seeing how they had come to her instead of just believing what they had read like everyone else.

"You don't have to answer that if you don't want to," Jasmine assured her quietly.

Lucy sighed, "I'm sorry I can't explain to you right now. I appreciate your coming over, but I'm kind of expecting my family right now and..." Lucy let the rest of her words trail off hoping they would pick the hint.

"Oh, Sure! I'm glad you have people coming over to stay with you. We just wanted to be sure you're alright," Jasmine said as she took Alicia's hand and headed for the door.

"Thanks for coming. And once again I'm sorry," Lucy said apologetically as the couple stepped outside.

"It's not a problem. We understand," Jasmine assured her with a wave as they both walked away.

"I have a YouTube channel with lots of followers, just in case you want to share your side of the story," Alicia offered as Jasmine dragged her away.

Just then a cab pulled to a stop in front of the house, and Sonia stepped out of the cab with her luggage box and handbag, causing Jasmine and Alicia to stop and stare at her curiously.

"Hey, Lu!" Sonia called out to Lucy before she could shut the door.

"Isn't that Sonia Smith? The writer who just dumped Bryan Hank? What is she doing here?" Alicia whispered to Jasmine as they both looked from Sonia to Lucy.

Seeing Sonia standing out there, Lucy ran out of her apartment barefooted and ran straight into Sonia's outstretched arm. Both friends held on to each other tightly, not caring that they were standing out there in the open.

"I'm sorry I arrived late," Sonia said as she pulled away from the hug to look at Lucy.

"It's not late. Let's go in," Lucy suggested when she noticed that people were staring at them. She picked up Sonia's luggage and led her to her apartment.

"What about Lucas and your parents? Are they inside?" Sonia asked curiously as she followed Lucy.

"They're not here yet. They didn't leave on time, and they're coming by road because of my mom who hates to fly," Lucy explained as she led Sonia inside her apartment.

Once Lucy shut the door behind them, Sonia dropped her handbag on the floor and pulled Lucy into a hug, and just held her there.

They stood there without saying a word. No words were needed. They both understood what the other was going through, so they held on to each other tightly, both offering and taking comfort from each other.. Before they knew it they were both sobbing.

## Chapter 232 - Family Reunion

Once the best friends stopped crying and settled down on the couch, Lucy remembered what Tom had told her, and turned to look at Sonia, "Tom said you broke up with Bryan. Why did you do that?" Lucy asked in a concerned tone since she knew for a fact that Sonia was in love with him.

"I just don't want him to get mixed up in this. He's an actor and his public image is important to his career," Sonia explained with a sigh.

"Is that what he told you? What did he say when you asked for the breakup?" Lucy asked, and Sonia looked away guiltily.

"I actually didn't ask. I just ended things with him myself."

"I guess it's true what they say," Lucy said in amazement.

"What they say about what?" Sonia asked, returning her gaze to Lucy.

"Even the smartest people are not so smart when they're in love," Lucy said with a shake of her head, "You should have first talked things through with him instead of just breaking up with him like that."

"It doesn't matter now, does it? The deed has been done. So what's the plan for the video? What social media platform do you have in mind?" Sonia asked, wanting to change the subject.

She didn't want to think about Bryan right now. She didn't want to start worrying about why he was yet to call or text her. Although she had ended things with him unexpectedly, she still expected him to understand her and give her a call.

"You're the social media freak, so I was hoping you would have an idea. Although one of my neighbors mentioned something about having a YouTube channel with many followers," Lucy said, and Sonia pursed her lips thoughtfully.

"YouTube... That's not a bad idea. We could shoot it there and then I would share the link to the video on my Instagram bio since I have lots of followers there," Sonia said, and then looked at Lucy with serious eyes.

"Are you sure you want to put yourself through this? I could just make a video of myself defending you. It's easier that way," Sonia suggested even as Lucy shook her head.

"No, it's not. Let's not argue about it," Lucy said dismissively, and Sonia narrowed her eyes at her suspiciously.

"Why do you sound unaffected by this?"

"I'm not unaffected. I'm just trying not to let it weigh me down. Would you rather you came here and saw me hiding under my duvet?" Lucy asked, and Sonia shook her head.

"Nah, I'm glad you seem okay. By the way, why don't I see Tom around? Come and show me his apartment," Sonia said, tugging Lucy's arm as she got off the couch.

"He left some minutes before you arrived. I didn't want him to be here when they arrive," Lucy explained as she pulled Sonia down.

"Why?" Sonia asked in confusion.

"This is not the time for that," Lucy said, giving Sonia a pointed look, and she sighed.

"You're right."

They both turned to the door when they heard the doorbell, "I guess they're here," Sonia said as they both got off the couch, and Lucy hurried to the door to open it.

"Mom," she greeted as she embraced her mom.

"Oh, my poor baby!" Her mother cooed softly as she embraced her, "You've lost so much weight," her mother observed as she broke the hug and looked Lucy over, "You're not eating enough."

"If you're done weighing her, can I hug my princess?" Lucy's father asked impatiently, and her mother moved away to embrace Sonia so that Lucy could embrace her father.

"Sonia my darling, how have you been?" She asked as she embraced Sonia.

"I've been great. I don't think there is any need to ask you how you've been. You look lovely as always Mrs. Perry," Sonia said admiringly, and Lucy's mother smiled.

"Thanks for coming to see her. I'm sure this must not be easy for you either."

"Daddy!" Lucy cried out as her father's strong arms came around her, and he lifted her off the ground making her laugh like she always did whenever he did that.

"I'm too old for this now," Lucy complained as he set her down and gazed fondly into her gray eyes which were identical to his.

"You can never be too old in my eyes. You'll always be my little princess," her father said as he pecked her forehead and then moved away from her to look at Sonia, "Who knew I would run into a celebrity here? I hope to get an autograph before I leave," He asked with a teasing smile as he embraced Sonia and pecked her cheek.

It was no secret in Lucy's family that Lucy's father was Sonia's first crush. He was not just handsome, but also looked very athletic. And he seemed to look even more attractive as he got older, "You're going gray," Sonia observed when she noticed the gray hairs that decorated his beards.

"And more handsome, yeah?" He asked with a wink and chuckled when she blushed.

"Let the poor girl be, Drew! Quit teasing her," Lucy's mother chided her husband with a giggle.

"Hey, Lulu!" Lucas greeted as he walked in carrying their mother's duffel bag. He set it down and embraced her, "I'm sorry I yelled at you earlier. I was upset," he said apologetically.

"It's okay. I've missed you," Lucy said, looking at him with a fond smile.

"Where is that boyfriend you spoke about? Or was it a lie?" Her mother asked, looking around the house.

"Did we come here because of her boyfriend?" Her father asked incredulously.

"Did we come here not to meet her boyfriend? Why can't we kill two birds with one stone?" Her mother asked before turning to look at her, "Why isn't he here? Don't tell me he broke up with you because of the news?" Her mother asked, making Lucy sigh as she met Sonia's gaze.

"He didn't. It's not like this is a happy family reunion or something..."

Her mother cut her off with a wave of her hands, "Of course, it is. We haven't seen you in a while so we needed to be here to make sure you are okay. Listen, baby, we are one happy family and we won't let anybody take our joy from us. Especially not now that you have a boyfriend. Don't worry, sweetie, we are definitely going to resolve this. There is nothing to worry about," her mother said with a confident smile.

"Let's all settle down and then we can talk about this," Lucy's father suggested as Lucy showed her mother and Sonia to the bedroom.

\*\*\*\*\*

Once Tom took off the disguise and changed into the outfit he had worn earlier that morning, he picked up the keys to Lucy's car and left the office.

On his way to the parking lot, his phone started ringing and he received the call when he saw that it was from Harry, "Hey!"

"I've gotten the details of the person who made the first post," he announced without beating around the bush, and Tom's steps faltered.

"Text it to me."

"I will. I've been on the phone with most of the shareholders all day and they're not pleased that we are yet to fire Lucy. I have also received several calls this evening, and I was told that you escorted Lucy out of the company as the CEO and fired an employee in the presence of other staff for speaking ill of her. Is that true?" Harry asked quietly.

"Yes, I did. And Harry please don't start telling me about what I'm supposed to do or not do as the CEO. She is mine, and I owe it to her to protect her," Tom said before Harry could say anything else.

"We are the only ones who knows that. If you were married to her and you were doing all of this no one would dare to challenge you. But right now everyone thinks she is just an employee, so your actions are questionable," Harry tried to explain.

"Then I should just open up to everyone and let them know that she is my girlfriend," Tom suggested.

"This is not the time, Tom! It's not the right time for this. I understand that this must not be easy for you, but you're also not making things easy for me either. I've been trying all day to convince the shareholders to be calm, and I'm also here trying to help Jade with her case. I'm feeling overwhelmed by all of it," Harry complained.

"I'm sorry, Harry. I will deal with this. I will deal with the shareholders as well. Just send me the details," Tom said as he headed for the car, and got in.

"Please, Tom, do not do anything reckless. I understand that Lucy means a lot to you, but the company is also important to us. You know best how this works," Harry pleaded.

"Don't worry, Harry. Just focus on Jade's case, and leave this to me," Tom said, and then glanced at his phone when he got the notification for another call.

"Let's talk later, I need to take Bryan's call," Tom informed him and hung up.

"What's up?" He asked once he received Bryan's call.

"If you're not too busy can you pick me up?"

Chapter 233 - Shit!

"Sup? What is going on? What are you doing here?" Tom asked the moment he stopped the car beside Bryan, and he got into the front seat of the car.

"Are you asking that because you don't know that Sonia broke up with me and came here to be with Lucy?" Bryan asked, barely able to conceal his annoyance and frustration.

"I've been trying to make sense of all that she said but it still doesn't make any sense to me. Does it make sense that she wants us to stay away from each other until everything is resolved? I tell her that I love her, and she is talking about how she cares about my fucking career," Bryan said angrily and Tom listened to him without saying a word.

"I'm here to help them resolve things quickly so that I can go back home with my fiancée," Bryan stated matter of factly as he buckled his seatbelt.

"Does your agency know that you are here?" Tom asked curiously, and Bryan shook his head.

"No, they don't. They would probably try to stop me if they knew I was coming here after Sonia walked out like that. Not that I care about what they think anyway," Bryan said dismissively.

If the situation wasn't serious, Tom would have probably teased him or made jokes about how much he had changed since the last time they met, but he understood Bryan. He knew how he had felt just a moment ago when Lucy asked him to stay away from her. That was something he knew that he wouldn't be able to do, so he could understand his brother's action.

"I understand. Have you spoken to mom yet? She has been trying to reach you," Tom said, and Bryan shook his head.

"I'm not in the mood to talk to her or anyone else. I only turned on my phone to talk to you," Bryan said as he combed his fingers through his hair in frustration.

This was the thing he hated most about falling in love with someone, having your whole life revolve around them. It was not even up to six hours since she left, yet he had no interest in anything. Nothing seemed to make sense to him since she left. How the fuck did she expect him to live without her until everything was resolved?

After she left him at the game lounge earlier, he had left while Jeff was busy trying to placate the producer who was angry over Sonia's sudden decision to leave at the final stage of the production. Bryan had taken a cab home, and once he walked into his home and saw how empty the whole

place was without Sonia and her stuff in his bedroom, he had known that there was no way he could stay away from her as she had asked him to. No fucking way.

He had immediately ordered a ride that took him to a private airstrip where he hired a private jet that flew him down to Ludus so that his agency would not be able to trace his whereabouts. He knew that the CEO of his agency wouldn't be pleased if he found out that he had left to meet Sonia.

Seeing how lost Bryan looked, Tom patted his shoulder, "You should take it easy on yourself. Everything will be okay," Tom assured him.

"Yeah. Sure."

"You want to stay in a hotel or you're coming home with me?" Tom asked as he turned on the car's ignition and reversed the car.

"The apartment beside Lucy's is still yours, right?" Bryan asked hopefully.

"Yeah."

"Then let's go there," Bryan suggested, and Tom spared him a glance only for a moment before giving him a nod.

"What has Lucy got to do with Sonia's brother?" Bryan asked after a while, wanting to get a clear picture of all that was happening.

Tom took in a deep breath. Although he wasn't sure if it was in his place to tell Bryan about Lucy's past, but seeing all that was happening at the moment and how it was also affecting Bryan's relationship, he felt that Bryan deserved to know since he wasn't a stranger. Having thought it through, Tom went on to tell Bryan all that he knew about Sonia's and Lucy's friendship.

"Damn psychopath!" Bryan muttered under his breath when Tom had finished. He didn't want to imagine how Lucy must have felt seeing the post, "You've made up with Lucy, right?" Bryan asked since Tom was yet to admit to him that Lucy had forgiven him and they were now on good terms.

Tom didn't see any reason to lie to Bryan anymore so he gave him a nod, "Yeah."

"Good. Is there anyone you suspect might have done this?" Bryan asked thoughtfully.

"My first guess would be Anita," Tom said, and Bryan raised a brow.

"Anita? Your ex? Why would she do something like this? Does she know about your identity already?" Bryan asked thoughtfully, and Tom gave him a one-sided shrug.

"I think so. But I don't have any proof."

"So why is she your first suspect then?" Bryan asked in confusion.

"Let's just call it a hunch."

"I see. I'm still surprised that you didn't have them take down the post. Why?" Bryan asked since he knew that if he were in Tom's shoes that was the first thing he would have done even before Lucy finds out about it.

"I wanted to, but Jade said that it would complicate things for Lucy, and suggested that we take it down only after finding the person responsible for the post," Tom explained.

"I see. So what plans have been put in place to find the person?" Bryan asked impatiently.

"Harry already texted me the details," Tom informed him, and Bryan picked up Tom's phone which he knew he always kept in the armrest console of his car while driving.

Once he saw the name and address which was displayed on the phone's screen he turned to Tom "Why don't we pay this motherfucker a visit?"

"I think we should let Lucy's family handle it, and just throw our weight behind them," Tom said instead. Seeing how Lucy's parents had traveled down to be with her, he figured it was best he gave them the chance to make the final decision on what should be done.

"It doesn't stop us from visiting this bastard. I don't know about you, but I really want to mess this bastard up," Bryan said with a scowl.

\*\*\*\*\*

Since Lucy had just two sofas in her living room, and it couldn't accommodate all of them, after having dinner they all gathered together in Lucy's bedroom to talk about the issue that had brought them together. Sonia sat on the chair in front of the dressing table, while Lucy and her family stayed on the bed.

"So what is going on, princess? Do you have any idea who is behind this? Maybe you stepped on the wrong toe?" Lucy's dad asked her since it was obvious that whoever had done it was specifically targeting Lucy.

Lucy's thoughts briefly drifted to Anita, but she shook her head, "I don't know..."

"Surely there must be someone you are suspicious of or is there not?" Her mother cut in, and once again Lucy shook her head.

There was no way she could tell her parents about Anita since she knew them well enough to know that the moment she mentions Anita's name and explains her connection with her, they were going to ask her to end things with Tom immediately as they wouldn't want her to get hurt because of a man.

"Are you certain, Lu? You should talk to us," Lucas urged her.

"Tom has people trying to find the person who started this. Once they are able to find them, we can press charges against them," Lucy said, and her father nodded.

"I will like to meet him," Tom's father said, and Lucas nodded in agreement.

"Yes, you should invite him over," Lucas added as he glanced at his phone which was ringing yet again with another call from Rachel, "Excuse me for a moment," Lucas said as he stood up to leave the room.

"I'm so relieved to see that you are handling this very well," Lucy's mother said as she reached out to pat her hair, and Lucy snuggled closer to her. Although she had not wanted them to come over, now that they were here she felt much better.

"Yeah. She is a big girl now," her father said with a proud smile before turning to look at Sonia who had remained quiet the whole time.

"Are you okay, pumpkin? You've been so quiet?" He asked curiously when he noticed how she kept staring at her phone like she was waiting for a call.

Sonia flashed him a smile, "I'm fine. I just need to get a glass of water." she said as she picked up her phone and stood up to leave the bedroom.

Her phone started ringing almost immediately and she picked up the call when she saw that it was from Mia, "Hey!" She greeted as she walked out of the bedroom.

"Have you heard from Bryan?" Mia asked in a worried tone.

"No. Why?" Sonia asked in alarm.

"No one has seen him nor heard from him since you left. The CEO is very upset," Mia complained.

"He is not at home?" Sonia asked fearfully.

"No. We've checked everywhere.... Shit!" The rest of Mia's words trailed off and she swore when a news article popped up on the screen of her iPad.

#### Chapter 234 - FRAUD CELEBRITY COUPLE

After Lucy's dad and Lucas had left for the hotel, and her mother had settled in for the night, Lucy went to the living room to join Sonia, "What's happening? You've been on the phone all evening," Lucy asked as she dropped on the couch beside Sonia who was scrolling through her phone with a glass of wine in front of her.

Sonia looked at Lucy, and then let out a sigh as she handed her phone to her. Displayed on the screen was a news article with the caption, "FRAUD CELEBRITY COUPLE!!!" and attached to it was a photo of Sonia and Bryan together captured from one of their shoots.

"As if I knew that this was going to happen," Sonia said as she picked up the glass of wine in front of her and sipped from it.

"Have you heard from Bryan? What did he say?" Lucy asked with a concerned frown as she started reading through the article. It seemed like whoever had written the article had evidence to prove that both Bryan and Sonia had lied about their relationship.

"No. I've tried reaching him but his phone is switched off. His assistant said no one has been able to reach him since I left," Sonia said, and Lucy embraced her.

"I'm sorry. All of this is my fault," Lucy said apologetically, and Sonia scoffed as she pulled away from the hug.

"What nonsense are you uttering? It's not like they're making things up anyway. It's true. We deceived everyone," Sonia said with a shrug, as she started to distractedly tap her feet.

"Should I try to reach Tom and ask him if he has heard from Bryan?" Lucy asked since she knew that Sonia was only pretending to be okay. Seeing how she was tapping her feet, she could tell that Sonia was worried and trying to distract herself.

Sonia shook her head, "I already ended things with him. What's the point? Let's just focus on why I'm here. Why didn't you tell your parents about your plan?" Sonia asked, wanting to change the subject and Lucy shook her head.

"We both know that they will likely say no, don't we? You know how protective they are, so what's the point?" Lucy asked, and Sonia nodded her head as she took her phone from Lucy.

"I guess so. So when do you want us to make the video then?" Sonia asked wanting to do something as she wasn't sure she could stay still for much longer.

"Let's find time to do it tomorrow after I hear from Tom," Lucy said, and then took Sonia's phone from her when it kept buzzing with Instagram and twitter notifications.

Her phone was buzzing with so many messages from fans of both herself and Bryan, some of whom were expressing their disappointment at the pair for deceiving them, others whom were demanding to know the news was true or not, and some others whom believed that regardless of what was going on there was chemistry between Bryan and Sonia, and hoped that the BrySon ship would sail.

"Let's do something fun. You want to play a game or see a movie?" Lucy asked, wanting to distract Sonia.

"Look at you trying to cheer me up, when I came here to cheer you up," Sonia said with a wry smile.

"We are one, Sony. I got you," Lucy promised as she pulled Sonia closer to her so that Sonia was leaning on her with her head resting on Lucy's shoulder.

"I got you too, Lu. And I love you," Sonia said with a sigh as she wrapped her arm around Lucy's waist.

They both sat there in comfortable silence, and while Lucy thought about the video she planned to make, and whether or not to tell Tom about it, Sonia thought about Bryan and the nice time they had shared the previous night and early that morning. Who knew that so much could change within twenty-four hours?

"Did I tell you that I and Bryan finally did IT last night?" Sonia asked with a smile in her voice and Lucy raised a brow.

"I thought you said you were waiting?"

"Yeah, I was. But I just couldn't wait anymore. If I had known all of this would happen today I wouldn't have wasted all that time waiting," Sonia said with a sigh.

"I'm sorry," Lucy murmured as she patted Sonia's hair gently. They both sat up when Lucy's phone started ringing, and he picked it up expecting that it was probably Tom who was calling. She sighed when she saw that it was a call from Anita, and threw the phone on the couch.

"Who is calling?" Sonia asked curiously when she noticed Lucy's reluctance to receive the call.

Sonia raised a brow when she picked up the phone and saw that it was Anita who was calling, and then she received the call, "Yeah?" She asked without minding her manners.

Lucy looked at Sonia questioningly, but Sonia said nothing as she stood up and put some distance between her and Lucy.

"Lucy?" Anita asked with a confused frown, not sure if it was Lucy who had taken the call or someone else on the line.

"What do you want?" Sonia asked irritably. She needed to transfer some of her frustration and irritation to someone else, and Anita was the only available person at the moment.

Anita cleared her throat as she sat up on her bed. Lucy was always soft-spoken and polite, so hearing her sound this impatient and aggressive was quite unsettling, "Uhm, I guess I'm calling at a bad time..."

"No. It's not a bad time. What do you want?" Sonia asked rudely.

Although Anita wasn't comfortable with the tone, she didn't let it deter her, "I just went online and saw some news about you on social media..."

"And?" Sonia cut in rudely.

"Uhm... I was worried and I thought I should check on you to know how you're doing," Anita said, trying to sound concerned.

"That's very sweet of you. Now let's drop the pretense, okay? What exactly do you want from her?" Sonia asked rudely.

"I beg your pardon?" Anita asked as she got off her bed. So this wasn't Lucy? "Who am I speaking with?"

"This is Sonia, Lucy's very crazy best friend. I'm sure you've heard of me."

"She has never mentioned you," Anita said in a cool voice. Judging by all she had heard about Lucy's best friend, she was obviously not as naive or gullible as Lucy was.

"Too bad you haven't, maybe if you had, you wouldn't be trying to mess with my bestie. Now listen, I don't know what you want, or what games you are trying to play with her, and I honestly do not care to know either. My best friend is NOT interested in being friends with you. You rejected Tom when he came to you, and now she is dating him. Tom no longer wants you, it is Lucy who he wants, and there is nothing you or anyone else can do about it. Lose her number," Sonia said, and hung up before Anita could respond.

"Was that necessary? What if she was really just trying to be friendly?" Lucy asked with a concerned frown.

"Always trust your instincts, Lu. You were wary of her even before you realized that she was Tom's ex-girlfriend, and you also said Tom is suspicious of her too. What other proof do you need? Plus, I don't care whether or not she is just being friendly, I'm all the friend you need," Sonia said as she dropped on the couch beside Lucy.

"Let's get drunk and gossip the brothers until we sleep off," Sonia suggested with a wink as she poured more wine into the glass, and handed Lucy the glass while she drank directly from the bottle.

\*\*\*\*\*

Disguised in their costumes, Tom and Bryan walked into a dark room where a young college student was seated, and tied to a chair with a black bag thrown over his head.

"Please don't hurt me, please," the young man cried when he heard the footsteps.

Tom signalled to one of the men who had captured the college student to take the black bag off his head so that they could see his face.

Both brothers exchanged a look when they saw how young he was. They hadn't expected whoever had posted such malicious content on the internet to be this young, but then again they should have expected it. It was the social media age after all, and people could hide behind their phone and post all manner of things.

Once the bag was taken off his face, the young man looked at the two men who were standing before him with strange looking beards, and were dressed in matching black suits and black shades.

"Please don't hurt me," he pleaded.

"How can you hurt people's reputation and their emotions, and expect not to get hurt?" Tom asked incredulously.

"I didn't do anything. I haven't done anything wrong," he pleaded tearfully.

"Who paid you to do it? I will suggest that you think carefully before you respond to my question. Your rash action has put me in a tight spot and I am beyond pissed. I'm not a violent person, but I wouldn't hesitate to hit you if you waste my time any more than you have already done," Bryan threatened, and judging by the way his hands were balled in a fist, the young man could tell that the man before him was barely managing to control his temper.

"I'm sorry. I only did as I was told. I saw the news articles and I thought it was true," the young man pleaded as tears ran down his face.

"I asked who?" Bryan barked at him angrily.

"Some random guy walked up to me and my friends at the club and asked if we were up for a job. We only did as he asked us to, and we were paid after making the posts," he explained amidst his tears.

"You were paid in cash?" Tom asked, and the young man nodded.

"And there is no way you can reach this man?" Bryan asked, and the young man nodded.

"Why should we believe you?" Bryan asked, looking like he wanted nothing more than to beat the young man to a pulp, "Give me one reason why we should believe you and let you out of here alive?" Bryan asked as he looked around the room dramatically.

Seeing how Bryan was looking around as if he was looking for something with which to harm him, the young man started sobbing, "I swear to you, I'm not lying to you. My friends..... One of them recorded everything the man said with his apple wristwatch," he quickly confessed when Bryan picked up a piece of metal.

Chapter 235 - Suit Yourself

Tom roused from sleep when he heard the sound of his doorbell. He turned to look at Bryan who was sleeping beside him. They were both still dressed in the suit they had worn the previous night. They had been too tired to take off the clothes when they got home. They had only managed to take off their coat, wigs and fake mustache.

It was past four in the morning before both brothers had finally made it to Tom's apartment. Although they had both been very exhausted, they were satisfied with the progress they had made. He glanced at his bedside clock. It was just seven in the morning. They had barely gotten three hours of sleep.

Who could be at the door? Lucy? She was with her family, so he wasn't so sure she was the one. If not her, then who? He wondered as he quickly got off the bed so that the person wouldn't ring the doorbell again. He tried to move quietly so that he wouldn't disturb Bryan's sleep, but Bryan stirred in his sleep.

"Are you expecting someone?" Bryan asked in a sleepy voice but didn't open his eyes.

"Not exactly," Tom said as he walked out of the bedroom. Although he wasn't expecting anyone, he knew that it could be Lucy who had likely come to check on him after seeing her car parked outside her apartment. Once he got to the living room and opened the door, he was very surprised to see Sonia standing by his door.

"Hi! Good morning," she greeted with a bright smile, while Tom just stared at her in surprise.

Although he knew that Sonia had traveled down to see Lucy, he hadn't expected to meet her this way, not with her standing outside his door by seven in the morning.

Sonia had barely been able to sleep all through the night, despite the amount of alcohol she had consumed. She had been too worried about Bryan to sleep. She had kept waking up at intervals to dial his line, and each time it failed to connect, her heart became even heavier.

She had finally dozed off in the early hours of the morning and had woken up barely an hour later. Since Lucy and her mother were still asleep when she woke up, she had decided to take an early morning stroll. She had been surprised to see Lucy's car parked outside since it hadn't been there when she arrived the previous evening. That led her to believe that Tom was probably around in his apartment. And here she was.

"Good morning," Tom greeted, his surprise evident in his tone.

"I'm Sonia..."

"Of course, I know who you are," Tom cut in to save her the stress of introducing herself.

"Can I come in?" Sonia asked uncertainly since she didn't know if Tom was going to be receptive to her because she had just publicly called off her engagement with his brother the previous day.

Tom glanced inside the house, wondering if Bryan would like to meet Sonia yet. On second thoughts he opened the door for her to get in, knowing that if his brother was anything like him, he would want to meet Sonia at any point of the day.

"Thank you," Sonia said as she walked into the house.

Bryan who was now awake and had been on his way to the living room to find out who was visiting his brother so early in the morning, paused when he heard the familiar voice, and his heart skipped a beat.

Had it been less than twenty-four hours since he last heard that voice? It felt like ages since he had last seen laid his eyes on her. He missed her and wanted nothing more than to kiss her and let her know how much he loved her and couldn't bear to be away from her.

"Uhm, I know it's our first time meeting, and you probably already heard that I called off things with your brother. I'm very sorry for barging in on you this way," Sonia babbled, and Tom shook his head to stop her.

"You don't have to explain yourself or be sorry. Is Lucy okay?" He asked the first question that came to his mind. He recalled that he had promised to give Lucy a call when he got home the previous evening, but then he had been carried away by Harry's call, and then Bryan's call and arrival, and following that Bryan had insisted they find those behind the social media scandal. They had gotten home too late, and he hadn't wanted to disturb Lucy's sleep so he had failed to call her.

"Physically? She's okay. Her mom is with her. But I'm not so sure if she's okay emotionally, considering all that is going on. That's one of the reasons I'm here. Before we get into that, have you heard from your brother?" Sonia asked with a concerned frown.

"Bryan?" Tom asked in a loud voice to alert Bryan that he was the subject of discussion.

"Yes, unless you have another brother that I don't know about," She said with a trace of sarcasm in her voice, making Bryan's lips curve in a smile as he listened to her. He could almost imagine her rolling her eyes.

Although he was very tempted to go out there to her and show her just how much he had missed her, he refrained himself from doing so. He needed to hear what she had to say.

Tom's lips twitched in amusement, "No, I haven't heard from him. Why?" Tom asked, and Sonia looked at him for a moment without saying a word.

Knowing how Tom had deceived her best friend in the past, she couldn't exactly be blamed for not believing his words, "Can I take your word for it?" Sonia asked doubtfully.

"It's up to you. Hold on, let me get my phone and see if I can reach him," Tom said as he walked past Sonia and headed for his bedroom. Seeing how she seemed to have trust issues with him, he didn't want to start on the wrong foot with her since she was not just his baby's best friend, but his sister-in-law.

He almost bumped into Bryan who was standing by the door and eavesdropping on their conversation, "What are you trying to do?" Bryan asked as he followed Tom on tiptoes.

They both walked into the bathroom so they could speak without being heard, "I thought you were still asleep. Why are you eavesdropping? You don't want to talk to her? She is very worried about you," Tom said, and Bryan snorted.

"Serves her right. She decided to call things off after all," Bryan said, and Tom shook his head.

"Just yesterday you looked like you were going to die if you didn't see her, and now you're going to let your pride get in the way?" Tom asked.

"She should get a taste of her own medicine," Bryan said stubbornly.

"You're so immature. Suit yourself," Tom said as he picked up his phone and returned to the living room to join Sonia.

"I intend to," Bryan said with a smirk as he followed Tom, and then stood behind the door once again so he could hear what Sonia had to say.

"His line is not connecting," Tom said when he dialed Bryan's line and raised it to his ear.

"Yeah. Everyone has been trying to reach him. I hope he's okay," Sonia said with a slight frown.

"Don't worry, I'm sure he's okay wherever he is. Bryan is known to sulk when he doesn't get his way," Tom said with a wink, and jerked his head in the direction where Bryan was hiding, making Sonia narrow her eyes.

"One time when he was fourteen, he bedwet and then tried to hide the clothes so that no one would find out what he had done. He even turned the mattress over..."

Bryan's face contorted in a scowl, and he gritted his teeth in annoyance as he listened to Tom share the embarrassing details of his childhood with the lady he loved, while Sonia who had sounded very worried a moment ago started giggling.

"... And then his school crush who happened to be Jade's friend came visiting. Mom wasn't aware of the girl's presence, so when she went around the rooms to pick our dirty laundry and got a whiff of the stale urine under Bryan's mattress she started yelling about how Bryan always..."

"Shut up, or I'm going to kill you!" Bryan growled at Tom angrily as he came out of his hiding, ready to swing a punch at Tom, but he was quick to duck.

Sonia who had already gotten the hint from Tom that Bryan was in the house, looked at Bryan with disapproval as he continued to chase Tom around the living room, but it was obvious that he was still favoring one of his legs.

"Bryan!" Sonia snapped at him, and he turned to look at her with a scowl.

"What do you want?" He asked grudgingly, even though now that he was standing face to face with her, he could no longer remember why he was mad at her.

"Why are you here?" Sonia asked even though what she wanted was to run into his arms and embrace him.

"What do you care?" Bryan asked with a scowl.

"Alright.. Daddy will excuse you kids to sort things out while I give Lucy a call," Tom said as he walked away, but neither of them paid any attention to him.

#### Chapter 236 - The Apartment Next Door

Lucy roused from sleep by the sound of Sonia's ringing tone. She couldn't believe that she had slept off on the couch. Her whole body ached due to the cramped position she had slept in.

Lucy stood up and stretched out her body before it occurred to her that Sonia wasn't in the living room. Where was Sonia? She wondered as she called out to Sonia, but didn't get a response. Her eyes fell on Sonia's phone which had resumed ringing again after the first disconnected call. She picked it up when she saw that it was Sonia's editor who was calling, and silenced the phone as she walked around her little apartment in search of Sonia.

By the time she returned to the living room once again, it was obvious to her that Sonia wasn't in the apartment. She glanced at the door and sighed when she noticed that her slide slippers wasn't there.

She dropped Sonia's phone and picked up hers to see if there was any missed call or text message from Tom. She scowled when she didn't see any, and angrily dropped the phone when she heard the sound of the doorbell.

"Good morning, dad!" She greeted when she opened the door and saw her father standing there.

"Good morning, Princess. Whose car is parked out there? It wasn't there when we left last night," her father said as he walked into the house.

"A car?" Lucy asked as she walked outside to see the car, even though she was aware that it was hers.

When did Tom return the car? Or did he send the substitute driver from yesterday to bring the car to her? She wondered as she glanced at his apartment. She wasn't sure he was at home.

"What are you staring at?" Lucas who had been on the phone with Rachel, asked as he got out of his car and looked in the direction of Tom's apartment, "Is that the apartment of that your friend's friend driver? Or was it colleague's friend's driver?" Lucas asked with a grin, and Lucy scowled as she turned to look at him.

"I don't know what you're talking about," she said as she picked up the car key from the top of one of the tyres and returned inside the house.

The last thing she wanted was for a nosy neighbor to capture a photo of her standing outside, still dressed in her pyjamas, and staring at the apartment next door. She could imagine what manner of caption they would give to such a photo.

Probably something like, 'Killer of college student, targeting her next victim?' Lucy thought with a giggle as she walked into her apartment.

"What is making you laugh?" Her father asked as he watched her with concern.

"Nothing serious. Just a silly thought," Lucy said as she placed the car key on the table.

Even though she did not exactly find her situation funny, knowing that people were going to be on the look out for her, so they could continue to supply the public with all manner of rumor about her, she couldn't help but try to find the humor in her situation. What else could she do but laugh?

"I need coffee in my system," her father complained as he walked over to her bedroom to meet his wife, while Lucy went over to the kitchen to prepare coffee for everyone.

"Now that I think about it, you didn't give me an update on the relationship between your colleague's friend and her driver," Lucas said with a teasing smile as he joined her in the kitchen with a box of cookies, "Oh, yeah, you did! He turned out to be her boss, right? And they're dating now, aren't they?" Lucas asked, and then chuckled when she glared at him.

"What is your point?" Lucy asked dryly.

"Well, it's not bad to listen to a brotherly advise once in a while. I honestly can't wait to see my future brother-in-law," Lucas said making Lucy roll her eyes.

"Don't get ahead of yourself. I never said anything about getting married to him," Lucy pointed out.

"Yeah, yeah. Where is Sonia by the way?" Lucas asked curiously when he realized that he was yet to see any trace of her.

"She wasn't here when I woke up, and she didn't take her phone with her either. I think she stepped out for a stroll," Lucy said as she turned to look at Lucas who was now seated on one of the twin chairs in her kitchen.

"Is she okay? I noticed that she wasn't her usual chatty self last night," Lucas said with concern as he opened the box of cookie, and Lucy sighed as she poured him a cup of coffee and placed it in front of him, before going to pour a glass of cranberry for herself.

"How can she be chatty when she just broke up with the man she is in love with?" Lucy asked as she took the seat opposite him.

Seeing how they were both seated here now, she was glad that she had followed her instincts and purchased this simple cane dining set with just twin chairs. She had been reluctant to purchase it at first, as she made plans to move over to ludus, since she lived alone and had no need for it when she could easily eat in her bedroom or living room.

"Yeah. I guess you're right," he said with a sigh as he looked into his cup of coffee and stirred it quietly.

"Is everything okay?" She asked as she watched him carefully from where she was seated. Maybe it was because they were twins, but somehow she always managed to know when something was wrong with him, regardless of how well he tried to act like he was fine.

"Sure."

"Liar! Out with it, what is the problem?" Lucy asked, watching him as he continued to look into his coffee.

Seeing how reluctant he was to talk about what was bothering him, Lucy narrowed her eyes suspiciously, "This has something to do with Rachel, doesn't it?" She asked since she knew that Lucas was only reluctant to tell her stuff when it had to do with Rachel because he knew that she didn't like her.

"She didn't do anything wrong," he said defensively without meeting her gaze.

"Of course, she didn't," Lucy said with a smirk, "Your response have said it all. What's up this time? I thought everything was rosy, and you both are busy with your wedding plans and..." The rest of her words trailed off when she realized what the problem could be.

"Is she fighting with you because you're here with me?" Lucy asked knowingly. Knowing how clingy Rachel was, she wouldn't put it past her.

"She is just upset that I left the way I did," Lucas explained.

"Then go back to her. I asked you not to come anyway," Lucy said irritably as she drank from her juice.

No matter how much she tried, she couldn't really bring herself to like Rachel. And Rachel was not making it easy for her either. How could any sensible lady be mad that her mad had left to spend time with his family considering the situation of things? If she wanted his attention so much why didn't she just travel down with him? Not that Lucy wanted her to stay under her roof anyway.

"You see why I didn't want to talk to you about it? You always react this way when Rachel is involved," Lucas said with disapproval as he stood up and walked away with his cup of coffee in hand.

Lucy opened her mouth to say something, but snapped it shut when her phone started ringing. She picked it up and received the call when she saw that it was a call from Tom.

"You were supposed to give me a call when you got some last night," Lucy said testily.

"Good morning to you too, Princess. Did you sleep well?" Tom asked cheerfully, choosing to ignore her statement since he could tell that she was in the mood to transfer aggression.

"Why didn't you call?" Lucy asked again, ignoring his greeting.

"Why didn't you call to check on me when you didn't see my call?" Tom asked in return.

"I was busy."

"Good. So why do you think I failed to call you?" Tom asked patiently as though he was talking to a kid.

"Whatever."

"Did you get the grocery items?" Tom asked curiously.

"Yes, I did. Thank you," Lucy murmured grudgingly.

"You are welcome. And you don't have to be upset that I didn't call. We only got home in the early hours of the morning, and I didn't want to disturb your sleep. We were very busy trying to find the people behind the article on the net," Tom explained making her brows furrow in confusion.

"We? Who else was with you?"

"Oh, yeah. Bryan got here last night. Your best friend is here too," Tom informed her.

"Sonia is there? Where?" She asked as she stood up.

"The apartment next door," before Tom could finish speaking, Lucy hung up the call and hurried out of the house to join them.

Chapter 237 - Family

Neither Bryan nor Sonia said a word to each other as they both remained where they stood, staring at each other. Although they were both glad to see each other, they both looked at the other wearily.

"You should be careful with your foot. That you're able to walk doesn't mean it is completely healed yet," Sonia said with concern, and Bryan raised a brow.

"You don't have to worry about me. You lost that right when you broke up with me," Bryan reminded her as he went to sit on the couch.

Sonia swallowed, "Still, you shouldn't be careless."

"Thanks for your advice. I'll keep that in mind," Bryan said dryly, and they both lapsed into another round of silence. He could tell that Sonia had something to say, and he wanted to hear what it was.

He didn't know why he was bent on staying mad at her when deep down he knew that he had already forgiven her. Maybe he just wanted her to sweat over it.

"I'm sorry. I shouldn't have done that. I didn't mean to hurt you. I was only doing what I thought was best for you and your career," Sonia said apologetically as she took the seat closest to him, and Bryan scoffed.

"As what? My mother or my manager?"

"As someone who loves and cares for you," Sonia said quietly.

"How thoughtful of you. Thanks for looking out for me then," Bryan said sarcastically.

"Cut it out, Bryan! I've said I'm sorry!" Sonia snapped at him irritably.

Bryan laughed incredulously, "No, you cut it out! I can't believe you're getting mad at me right now when you're the one who walked out on me less than twenty-four hours ago, and then you come in here sounding like you're so concerned and worried about my wellbeing. If you cared about me as much as you just displayed, you wouldn't have made such a decision without asking me what I wanted! So if we were married and an issue like this came up, you would divorce me just to protect my career as you claim?" Bryan asked angrily, and Sonia sighed.

"And I just apologized, didn't I? I wasn't thinking straight," Sonia said with a frown that told Bryan that she didn't like the line she had just used.

"What makes you think you're thinking straight now?" Bryan asked, wanting to provoke her further.

"Have you seen the scandal about us?" Sonia asked, without bothering to answer his question.

"Oh! There is a scandal? I guess that explains why you are here," Bryan said with disinterest.

Whatever the scandal was about, he didn't give a damn. It wouldn't be the first time he was involved in a scandal. He had thought she missed him sorely and had come here because she couldn't stay a day more without hearing from him, but he had been wrong.

"Why are you being difficult? You've offended me a couple of times in the past and I easily let go, so why are holding on to this one mis..."

"Easily let go? As if," Bryan muttered with a scoff.

"What do you mean by that?" Sonia asked with a slight frown as she tried to recall all three times he had offended her.

"You know what? Never mind," Sonia muttered as she stood up to leave.

Bryan watched her with narrowed eyes as she headed for the door.

\*\*\*\*\*

Thankfully no one was in the living room to stop Lucy as she picked up Sonia's cellphone from the table and ran outside. She had no idea why she was running over there, but she just wanted to be there.

Although the distance wasn't much, she was panting by the time she got to Tom's door and rang the doorbell.

"I wonder who is at the door this time," Bryan murmured as he glanced at the door, but made no attempt to get it since Sonia was already heading to the door.

Tom walked out of the bedroom to get the door since he knew it was Lucy, "You can't leave yet. Your friend is here," Tom said as he walked past Sonia and opened the door.

"I understand that you missed me much, but you didn't have to run all the way here. I'm surprised you remembered to wear any footwear," Tom said with a teasing smile when he saw that she was still dressed in her pyjamas and her hair looked a bit rough. She wasn't even wearing her glasses.

Lucy hit his arm as she walked past him into the house, and stopped when she saw Sonia. She then glanced at Bryan who was still seated. From the look on Sonia's face, she could tell that Sonia was yet to resolve things with Bryan.

"Finally I get to meet my sister-in-law," Bryan said with a wide smile as he stood up to greet Lucy, "Good morning, Lucy. I've heard a whole lot about you, but none of the things I heard did justice to your beauty," Bryan said making Tom raise a brow.

"Save the flattery for your fiancée," Tom warned.

What was it with the whole in-law talk today? Lucy mused as she walked up to Bryan, "Good morning, Bryan. I've heard a lot about you too," Lucy said with a warm smile as she extended her hand for a handshake, but Bryan took her hand and pulled her in for a hug instead.

"We are practically family, and we don't do handshakes here," Bryan said as he embraced her, "Everything will be fine, okay? Your man and I are doing all we can to resolve things," He assured her quietly as he patted her hair, while both Sonia and Tom stared at them.

Lucy's throat constricted, and she swallowed hard, "Thank you," Lucy whispered as she pulled away from him.

"Don't mention," Bryan said with a small smile.

"I suppose I'm the terrible brother-in-law," Tom muttered under his breath, and Sonia laughed softly, making Bryan turn to look at her. Who said she could laugh?

"Remember what I told you about him sulking?" Tom asked Sonia when she abruptly stopped laughing once she met Bryan's gaze.

"Shut up," Bryan warned Tom, making Lucy look from both brothers to Sonia curiously as she wondered what was going on.

"Trust me when I say he's just pretending to be mad. He missed you so much that he was crying out your name in his sleep last night. I guess even grown men play hard to get when they're in love,"

Tom said with a tsk, and ducked when Bryan flung a book at him, making both Lucy and Sonia giggle.

"Get out," Bryan ordered Tom who looked at him with a slightly raised brow.

"It's my house," Tom reminded him.

"It won't be much longer if I kill you," Bryan threatened

"Kill me? Maybe I should just tell the ladies how you fought with Matt and he..." The rest of Tom's words trailed off in a chuckle as he quickly moved away from Bryan's reach.

"Come with me, babe. Let's talk in the bedroom while they sort out their issue," Tom said with a grin as he took Lucy's hand and led her to the room.

Once they were left alone once again, Sonia who was still smiling, turned to look at Bryan, "So, what do you want me to do? Should I leave?" She asked, making Bryan scowl at her.

"Did I leave on all the few occasions you were mad at me?" He asked grudgingly.

Sonia looked at him for a moment, and without saying a word she walked up to him and embraced him, "I'm sorry. It won't happen again," she promised as she rested her head on his chest.

Bryan felt his heart flutter, "You really hurt my feelings," Bryan confessed, as he hugged her back.

"You sound like a girl," Sonia teased, and Bryan pulled away from the hug and rounded his lips in a pout.

"I don't look like one?" He asked, and she giggled.

"I'm really sorry I hurt your feelings. I hurt mine too. I missed you so much my heart ached," Sonia confessed as she gazed into his clear blue eyes.

"It serves you right," Bryan said as he lowered his lips to hers and kissed her slowly.

Meanwhile, inside the bedroom, Tom looked at Lucy with interest, "So can you tell me why you were upset over the phone?"

"Who said I was upset?" She asked without meeting his gaze, and Tom smiled as he watched her. Who knew she could be so childish and cute?

"Come here," he ordered in a quiet voice since she was standing by the dressing table while he was seated on the bed.

Lucy looked at him and slowly walked over to join him on the bed. Once he was within arm's reach, he grabbed her arm and pulled her down so that she fell on him.

"Sometimes you act like my girlfriend, and at other times you act like a stranger, why is that?" Tom asked in a husky voice as he raised his hand to her hair and removed the band which was holding the hair in a ponytail, causing it to fall in cascades around her shoulder.

"When did I act like a stranger?" She asked in a quiet voice as she met his gaze. Her heart skipped a beat when his eyes moved to her lips, and her tongue involuntarily snuck out of her mouth to wet her lips.

Tom lowered his head slowly and just as their lips touched, they heard the sound of the doorbell.

"Who is it this time?" Tom asked with a groan.

## Chapter 238 - Blogger

Once Tom opened the door, he was surprised to see Alicia standing there, "Good morning!" She greeted with a friendly smile, as she looked at him from head to toe, wondering why he was dressed that way so early on a Saturday morning.

"Good morning. How may I help you?" He asked without returning her smile or bothering to invite her in. Although Lucy was still in his bedroom, and both Sonia and Bryan had gone into the next bedroom when they heard the sound of the doorbell, he didn't want Alicia inside his house.

Something about the way Alicia always followed him with her eyes like she was keeping tabs on him, made him wary of her, and he was yet to forgive her and Jasmine for what they did during dinner.

"I was hoping I could speak with you for a moment," she said, and Tom raised a brow.

"Speak with me?" He asked, and when she gave him a nod, he reluctantly held the door open for her to go in.

Once she stepped inside, Alicia looked around the apartment curiously. She was tempted to ask about Lucy and Sonia since she had seen Sonia walk into the house earlier, and had also seen Lucy run out of her apartment like she was being chased a while ago, but she refrained from doing so. She could tell that he was wary of her, and she didn't want to give him any more reason to feel that way. She was only trying to help after all.

"You can sit down. Excuse me for a moment," Tom said, and she reasoned that he was probably going to tell both ladies to stay quiet since he had a visitor. What were they all up to?

"Sure," she said with a nod and watched as Tom walked away.

Tom stopped by the other bedroom first to see Bryan and Sonia, "I have a guest. So you should remain here," he informed them before walking over to his bedroom to meet Lucy.

"Alicia is in the living room," he informed Lucy.

"Alicia? What is she doing here?" Lucy asked with a slight frown. Perhaps Alicia wanted to ask for his sperm now? She wondered.

"I don't know. Do you want to see her? Or you would rather remain in here?" Tom asked, and Lucy pursed her lips as she thought of it.

"Why don't we find out what she has to say before I make my presence known?" Lucy asked, and Tom gave her a nod before walking away.

Once he returned to the living room he sat down on the couch opposite Alicia, "Do you care for coffee?" Tom offered politely.

"Nah. I'm fine," she said with a shake of her head, and then cleared her throat, "I wanted to talk to you about Lucy. You're both in a relationship, am I right?" Alicia asked, and Tom sat back in his seat to look at her.

"Why do you ask?" Tom asked, his voice tone suddenly very cool. He hoped for her sake that she wasn't here to speak ill of Lucy.

"Because I want to know what your relationship with her is before I say what I have to say," Alicia said without letting his tone get to her.

Tom stared at her for a moment, and although he was tempted to tell her it wasn't her business, he was curious to know what she had to say, "Yes."

"I suppose she is aware that you're the CEO of I-Global?" Alicia asked, and Tom looked at her in surprise making Alicia smile.

"You don't have to be surprised. I'm a very observant person by nature, so when something catches my interest I tend to give it my time," Alicia said, and Tom's brows pulled together.

"I'm not sure I follow what you're trying to say."

"Since you have admitted that you're in a relationship with her, I will just open up to you. You caught my interest the very first time I saw you. I liked you, and I told Jasmine that I thought you would make a good father for our kid. Jas and I wanted you to be our sperm donor," she said, and almost laughed out loud when Tom's mouth hung open in surprise.

"Sperm donor?" He asked in horror, not knowing whether to feel flattered or insulted. He suddenly felt the urge to place his hands over his crotch protectively. But refrained from doing something so silly.

"I guess she didn't tell you about it," Alicia said in amusement.

"Jasmine?" Tom asked, wondering who she was referring to. This whole time he had thought both ladies were just sisters or friends. How come he hadn't noticed it?

"No. Lucy."

"Lucy? You told Lucy?" Tom asked in disbelief. Lucy knew all along that they wanted his sperm yet she didn't say anything? Tom suddenly felt violated. Imagining how all three women must have sat down to discuss his sperm, his hands involuntarily moved to his crotch.

"Are you going to repeat everything I say?" Alicia asked in amusement.

"Hold on. How did you know that I'm the CEO of I-Global? And how long have you known that?" Tom asked curiously. He had tried his best to cover his tracks, so how could she have known?

Now he was even more thankful that he had told everything to Lucy, else she would have found out right now since he was certain she was eavesdropping on their conversation at the moment.

"I started trying to connect the dots after you asked us not to tell Lucy that you just moved into the neighborhood. And then I became more suspicious of you when we had dinner together and Lucy mentioned how she met you at a club and you ended up becoming her next-door neighbor and driver." Alicia said with a small smile as she remembered all the times she had stood by her window and sat outside watching Lucy's apartment because she feared that Tom was an obsessed stalker and might harm her.

"I don't believe much in coincidences. I felt she was very naive to have easily believed in the many coincidences. So I took a special interest in watching the both of you, just to make sure she was okay," Alicia said with a shrug.

"You don't have a job?" Tom asked. Although he appreciated her for looking out for Lucy, he couldn't help feeling irritated with the fact that she had been watching him the whole time.

Alicia gave him an easy smile, "I'm a blogger. She didn't tell you that I offered to let her share her side of the story on my YouTube channel?" She asked, and Tom raised a brow.

"Why do you seem so concerned about her?" Tom asked suspiciously.

"I don't know. Do I need to have a specific reason? She just seems like a nice person, and she is also my neighbor, so I want to help her," Alicia said with a shrug.

"You're not doing this because you want my... My..." Tom stopped, unable to bring himself to say the word.

Alicia giggled, "No. I'm not doing this because we want you to father our child. As I said, it's for Lucy," she assured him.

Tom looked at her for a moment and then let out a sigh, "Alright. I will talk to her about it and..."

"I will do it. I want to do it," Lucy said as she stepped out to join them, and then flashed Alicia an apologetic smile, "Sorry. I hope you don't mind that I was eavesdropping on your conversation, do you?"

"I knew you were in there," Alicia said with a wide smile.

"You seem to know everything," Tom said with a scowl, and Alicia giggled.

"You would be surprised by how much I know about the lives of a lot of high-profile persons," Alicia said with a smile.

"High profile persons?" Tom asked curiously, and Alicia nodded.

"If you know a lot about high profile persons, how come you didn't know about Tom?" Lucy cut in.

"I tried digging into I-Global in the past, but there was no dirt there. There was no reason for me to pry into his life when he wanted to stay away from public view," Alicia explained.

"For instance, I know that I-Global recently purchased Ocean Airlines. Although Mr. Wyatt claimed to sell off the airline because he needed money to take care of his medical expenses, he is actually neck-deep in debts due to his gambling addiction," Alicia said, making Tom narrow his eyes.

"I see," Lucy said, looking at Alicia with newfound admiration, "Your job must be dangerous," Lucy said thoughtfully.

"That's why I live here. You wouldn't have known what I do had I not told you, right?" Alicia asked, and Lucy gave her a nod.

"How do you get your information?" Tom asked curiously.

"I have my sources. Very reliable resources," Alicia assured him.

"I think apart from using your YouTube channel you might be able to help us," Tom said thoughtfully as an idea struck him.

"I would like to assist you both in any way I can," Alicia said eagerly.

## Chapter 239 - Bullshit!

Inside the bedroom, Sonia lay on the bed with her head resting on Bryan's chest, while he patted her hair gently.

"This feels like a dream," Sonia murmured, holding him close as if she was scared that he was going to disappear.

"Aww, you're in love," Bryan said in a teasing tone, and Sonia giggled as she hit his arm playfully.

"It's not funny!" Sonia chided him, and then she sat up to look into his face when she remembered that they weren't here on a vacation.

Seeing the sudden seriousness in her eyes, Bryan sat up with a sigh, "Okay. What were you saying about a scandal?"

"It's about our relationship being fake. The article says we deceived everyone into believing that we are a couple, and the companies that sponsored the reality show are calling you out. Your endorsement deals may be canceled and you will have to pay for breaching the contract," Sonia explained with a frown.

"At least we both know our relationship isn't fake," Bryan said lightly.

"That isn't the point right now. We did deceive everyone," Sonia pointed out.

"And the crux of the matter is whether or not our relationship is fake. It is not," Bryan countered, and reached out to smoothen the creases on her brow with his hand.

"Relax, babe. I will take care of it," he assured her with a small smile, but Sonia was having none of it.

"How will you take care of it? This is all my fault. If I had not ended things, and left the way I did, this wouldn't have happened," Sonia complained.

"Says who? Don't worry about it, and just trust me, alright? I will take care of it," Bryan promised, and they both turned to the door when they heard a knock.

"Mind if I come in? Bryan, Tom needs you in the living room," Lucy said without opening the door.

"Reality calls," Sonia murmured to Bryan, "You can come in baby," she called back to Lucy as she jerked her head towards the door for Bryan to leave.

"Baby? I thought I was your only baby?" Bryan asked with a scowl.

"Apparently, you thought wrong," Sonia said with a giggle as she pushed him off the bed.

"I thought wrong, huh?" Bryan asked in a threatening tone and snapped his finger at her before walking away.

Lucy walked in with Sonia's cellphone as Bryan walked out, "I forgot to give it to you earlier. Your editor has been calling," she said as she handed the phone to Sonia, and sat down on the bed next to her.

"You both have reconciled, right?" Lucy asked hopefully, and Sonia gave her a wide smile.

"Yes, we have. He came over to help resolve things quickly so that I can go back home with him," Sonia said with a happy smile.

"Home, huh? I guess you'll be getting married to him after all," Lucy said with a smile as she watched her friend. Although things weren't going so well for her at the moment, she was happy to see that Sonia was happy.

Sonia sighed, "Let's just clear up all this mess before talking about anything else," Sonia said, suddenly feeling guilty that she was happy while Lucy's issue was still unresolved.

"About that, you won't believe that one of my neighbors..." Lucy was interrupted by the sound of Sonia's ringtone.

"I need to take this," Sonia said when she saw that it was a call from Mia.

"Sure. I should probably give Lucas a call so that they wouldn't be worried about my sudden disappearance," Lucy said as she excused Sonia.

"Hey!" Sonia greeted once she received Mia's call.

"Is this Miss Smith?" An unfamiliar masculine voice asked, and Sonia's brows creased in confusion as she pulled the phone back to confirm that it was Mia who had called her. Why was someone else with the phone?

"Yes. Who am I speaking with?" She asked cautiously.

"This is Paul Williams. The CEO of golden stars entertainment agency," he introduced himself making Sonia's heart skip a beat.

"Oh, hello!"

"I suppose you have seen the news all over the internet concerning your false engagement to Bryan?" He asked in a cool voice.

"Yes, I have."

"Mia claims that you're in love with Bryan. Is that right?" He asked, and Sonia swallowed nervously, as her heartbeat increased.

"Yes. I am."

"I see. If you love him as you claim, and you don't want to ruin his career like you're already doing, I will suggest that you take the fall for all of this. Give out a statement informing everyone that you emotionally blackmailed him into proposing to you. You are a writer so I'm sure you can come up with something interesting and convincing. Tell them you approached Bryan and asked him to help you because you wanted fame, and out of the kindness of his heart he obliged," the CEO said in a commanding tone.

"But he..."

"There are no buts. All three companies with which he signed endorsement deals for the reality show have called to cancel their endorsements, and several other companies are still calling to cancel theirs. They all want to be compensated because they feel they have been deceived. This isn't good for Bryan's career, and if you care about him as you have said, then you will do the right thing for him by taking the blame," Mr. Williams paused, "If you had rejected his proposal or stayed away from him after that, he wouldn't have hurt his ankle, and none of this would have happened in the

first place," he added in an accusatory tone that told Sonia that he blamed her for all of Bryan's present predicament.

Sonia took in a deep breath. If she didn't love Bryan, she would have responded appropriately to the senseless accusation, but she loved him and cared about his career. She had no idea what Bryan had up his sleeves, but she doubted that he could make this all go away easily.

"I hope you will do the right thing for him," the CEO said and hung up before Sonia could respond.

Once she heard the disconnect tone, her hand fell to her side, and she sighed. He was right. If anyone was to take the fall for this, then it had to be her. She was nothing compared to Bryan who was an A-list celebrity. And she knew that it was very easy for public love to be transformed to hate.

What could she do? Bryan had asked her to let him handle it, and she didn't want to have another fight with him over making a decision on her own. Should she tell him what was going on? Perhaps she should, and maybe they could put their heads together to find a solution.

Just as she headed for the door to join the others, her phone started ringing again, and she paused when she saw that the call was from her editor this time. She had been surprised when she didn't receive a call from him the previous day.

Sonia took in a deep breath before receiving the call. She knew that whatever he was going to say to her wasn't going to be pleasant, "Hi!"

"Is it true?" Her editor asked in a tight voice without bothering to exchange pleasantries with her.

"Is what true?" Sonia asked cautiously, and she could imagine him closing his eyes when she heard him breathe in and out.

"Is it true that you approached Bryan Hank to engage you so that you would get the public's attention and generate more sales for your books?" He asked angrily, making Sonia's heart skip a beat.

"Where did you hear that?" Sonia asked in surprise. She had only just discussed it with Mr. Williams, how come her editor was asking about it?

"That doesn't answer my question!" He snapped at her in annoyance.

"Did you deceive me and everyone else about being engaged to Bryan Hank just so you can become famous? You were riding on his coattail?" He asked in annoyance since he could still remember how he suggested to her that they invite Bryan to their book signing event, and she had turned him down saying she didn't want to use him, yet she had been using him the whole time.

Before she could think of what to say, the bedroom door opened almost immediately and Bryan walked in, "What is taking so long, babe?" Bryan asked, and then one look at her face he could tell that something was wrong. He further confirmed it when he noticed the slight tremble of her hands.

"What is wrong? Who are you speaking with?" He asked as he approached her.

Sonia swallowed past the lump in her throat as she looked back at him. Of course, she could take any blame for him. She cared about him that much. But she wasn't going to do that if it was going to cost her their relationship.

Seeing how she was staring at him, Bryan plucked the phone from her hand and checked to see who she was speaking with. He raised a brow when he saw that it was her editor, and he raised the phone to his ear, "Is there a problem?" He asked curiously.

"Mr. Hank?" Sonia's editor asked in confusion.

"Yes, this is Bryan. Is there a problem? What did you say to upset her?" Bryan asked with displeasure.

"I thought you both ended things... Didn't she call off the engagement?" The editor asked in confusion since he had watched the clip.

"That still doesn't answer my question," Bryan pointed out, sounding slightly irritated now.

The editor had a frown on his face as he didn't understand what was going on, "Maybe you should check the internet. Your agency just released a press statement regarding your relationship with Sonia. Let her know I will call her back some other time," the editor said, and hung up the call immediately.

Once the call dropped, Bryan glanced at Sonia who was now seated on the bed, staring at him with a blank expression on her face, before going to search for the statement that his agency had released.

He scanned through the article which talked about how Sonia had approached Bryan and had pleaded with him to help her become famous by being in a relationship with her. And it went on to say how Bryan had fallen in love with Sonia in the process, yet she dumped him after she became famous, going from having just about four thousand followers on Instagram, to having over four million followers because of her relationship with Bryan.

"This is bullshit," Bryan hissed angrily as he threw the phone on the bed, "I'm going to call them right now to take this shit down," Bryan said as he turned to leave so he could go get his phone.

"Don't! This will turn the public's opinion in your favor. It is better..."

"Please, shut up!" Bryan cut in angrily as he turned to look at her.

"What do you mean by that? Do I look like a coward who would let his woman take the fall for something he did? I walked up to you and proposed to you, and you accepted me. It is no damn person's business how long I've known you before proposing to you. I'm in love with you and I don't give a fuck what anyone else thinks or has to say about it.. And you had better get any funny ideas you're having out of your head!" Bryan snapped at her before walking away.

Chapter 240 - Why Not?

"What is going on? Are you both fighting again?" Lucy who had been on the phone with Lucas, asked Sonia as she returned to the room to see Bryan storming out.

"No. It's not me he is mad at," Sonia assured Lucy with a slight frown as they both walked out of the bedroom following Bryan.

"I don't think you should give them a call," Alicia said the moment Bryan walked into the living room, making it clear to him that his voice had been loud and they had all heard what he said.

"I don't remember asking you what you think," Bryan hissed at her, his eyes flashing angrily as he picked up his phone from the table and switched it on. Once the phone came on, he received several text message notifications from both his parents, Jade, Matt, Mia, Jeff, the CEO, and some of his colleagues and friends.

Alicia ignored his comment and went on as though he had not just dismissed her opinion, "I think if you really want to deal with this issue, it will be best if you both make a live video together. People would believe you only when they hear from you directly," Alicia suggested as both Lucy and Sonia joined them.

"You must be a very nosy person," Bryan observed with annoyance as he scrolled through the contents of texts, most of which were expressing concerns over his scandal with Sonia, while his mom, Jade, and Matt asked him to give them a call the moment he sees their text.

"It comes with the occupation," Alicia responded with a smile.

"I think she has a point. We both know that Paul won't listen to you. He only wants what's best for your career. He's not interested in your personal life," Tom pointed out.

"Still, I need to give him a piece of my mind!" Bryan said as he dialed the CEO's line, and walked away from them once the call connected.

"Good Lord, Bryan! I've been trying to reach you. Where are you?"

"What the fuck did you do that for?" Bryan snapped at the CEO.

"Do what for? Calling Sonia or releasing a press statement to salvage the situation?" The CEO asked.

"You even called her?" Bryan yelled angrily.

"Calm down, Bryan. If you've seen the news all over the internet, then by now you should know that it's a mess and I needed to act fast, especially since I couldn't reach you," The CEO explained.

"Act fast? By coming up with such preposterous lies, and putting all the blame on Sonia? Do you want to ruin her career? Do you know how much damage your thoughtless action would cause her?" Bryan yelled at him, unable to control his rage.

"What else could I have done? All the companies are on our neck asking for refunds and compensations. How many of them do you think we can compensate?" The CEO asked, beginning to get angry at Bryan for being unreasonable.

"That should be for me to worry about! It wasn't in your place to drag Sonia into any of this! I am the one who proposed to her for crying out loud!"

"And she dumped you in front of everyone! She couldn't even wait for the show to end before she did that! She used you, and after getting the fame she wanted she walked away without caring about the effect her action would have on you. How can you defen..."

"Shut your fucking ignorant mouth! You know nothing about her or my relationship with her, so do not utter such useless words! Take down that press statement this moment or this will be the last time I talk to you as an actor under golden star agency!" Bryan threatened, and hung up the call before the CEO could say anything else.

Even after making the call he still felt very upset, and he threw his phone on the bed and combed his fingers through his hair.

"I'm sorry," Sonia murmured from the doorway, making him turn to look at her. He hadn't realized that she was at the door.

"What for?" He asked with a slight frown.

"I don't know. I just feel bad that you're in this mood," she said, and Bryan forced a smile as he walked over to where she was standing.

"You do understand that I'm not mad at you, right?" He asked as he stopped in front of her, and she gave him a nod.

"Yeah."

"Good. Then you don't have to be sorry. I'm used to being involved in scandals, but you're not. I'm the one who dragged you into my mess," Bryan said apologetically.

"I'm the crazy one who accepted your proposal and refused to return the ring," Sonia pointed out, wanting to share the blame with him.

"As long as you know that you're crazy, we are fine," Bryan said with a teasing smile, and Sonia giggled despite the seriousness of their situation.

"What do you think about what the nosy lady said? Are you comfortable with it?" Bryan asked, wanting to know her opinion on it before giving it a thought.

"I don't think it is a bad idea. But I also have to be in Lucy's live video," Sonia explained.

"Are you okay?" Bryan asked, looking at her with a concerned expression, and Sonia smiled despite how worried she actually was.

"Is it because you're an actor that you're this romantic? Or you have always had romance in you?"

"Who knows?" Bryan asked with a faint smile before returning her attention to his question, "You didn't answer my question. Are you fine? I noticed you do more worrying for others than you actually worry about yourself. And even though it's nice, I'm not sure I like that," Bryan said with a serious expression on his face.

Sonia sighed, "How can I be okay? Lucy is going through this because of me..."

"You must think so highly of yourself to think that everything happens because of you," Bryan cut in dryly, "I hope you don't only take the credit when bad things happen?" Bryan continued, not liking how she always managed to take the blame for everything bad that happens.

"What do you mean?" Sonia asked with a scowl.

"You always find a way to take the blame. I don't understand why you will think that what happened between your half-brother and your best friend is your fault. Did Lucy ever say so or do anything to make you feel that way?" Bryan asked, and Sonia shook her head.

"It's just that she would never have been involved with a psycho like him had she not been friends with me," Sonia pointed out.

"That is you making assumptions. Some things in life are bound to happen. You should stop regretting things you have no power over," Bryan said as he brushed his lips on her forehead.

"And please stop keeping things to yourself, alright? Always tell me what you're thinking, and if things get too difficult, don't just lean on me, leap on me," Bryan said as he embraced her, and then patted her hair softly.

Sonia smiled as he held her, "Where have you been all my life?" She asked in a quiet voice.

"On your television screen, entertaining you," Bryan joked, and Sonia giggled softly.

"I love you, Bryan. I really do," she whispered as she looked up at him and met his gaze.

"I love you even more my crazy green-eyed witch," Bryan said with a grin, and Sonia raised her brow.

"Witch?"

"Yes. That's what you are. You bewitched me and captured not just my heart but my soul," Bryan said, and then cringed as the words left his lips.

"That line was too cheesy for you, huh?" Sonia asked with a knowing giggle, and Bryan chuckled.

"We should join the others in the living room," Bryan suggested as he led her out of the bedroom.

"Alright, I will take my leave now. I will get you the information you need," Alicia promised Tom as she stood up.

She turned to look at Bryan and Sonia who just walked in and smiled, "It was nice meeting you both in person. And it's good to know that you're really in love with each other," she said before heading for the door.

"Alicia," Lucy called as she escorted her out.

"Yeah?" Alicia asked turning to look at Lucy.

"Thanks for looking out for me," Lucy said, and Alicia smiled as she patted her shoulder, and then she opened the door and walked away.

Alone now, the four of them sat down. Sonia was seated on one couch with Bryan, and Lucy sat on the adjacent couch with Tom.

"So what is the plan?" Bryan asked, looking at Tom curiously.

"You haven't told us what you found out last night," Lucy reminded both brothers.

"Oh, yeah," Tom said and went on to explain how Harry had sent him the details of the first person who started the viral post, and how he and Bryan had tracked the culprit who turned out to be a college student. He went on to tell them how they had then gone to the club to check the security footage so they could find the man who had given the college students the job. And then they had checked the footage of the exterior of the club to see how the man had come and left. They had taken down the plate number of the car he had used, and how by means of their special connections they had been able to track him and find out his identity and where he lived.

"Wow! That must have been a lot," Sonia murmured.

"Yet someone was upset with me for not calling," Tom said as he glanced at Lucy.

"Not that I don't appreciate what you did, but calling or leaving a text wouldn't have taken more than five minutes of your time. Just saying," Lucy insisted, and Sonia nodded in agreement.

"She has a point. You could have called," Sonia said, taking her best friend's side, and both brothers exchanged a look and shook their heads.

"So were you able to meet him?" Lucy asked curiously.

"Yes. However, he insisted that he received the job from a lady he doesn't know personally. He claims that she called him with a burner phone, and sent the details and money he needed to get the job done without meeting him.

"A lady?" Both Sonia and Lucy asked in unison.

"Yes. And I'm sure you're thinking what I thought too. Which is why I'm going to meet with Anita's uncle to make sure that her family has nothing to do with this," Tom said, thinking that he would use the information he had just gotten from Alicia to blackmail Mr. Wyatt. He never really liked the man anyway, so doing something as dirty as what he was about to do didn't affect him in any way.

"Why do you think her family is involved?" Lucy asked curiously since although she suspected Anita, she didn't think Anita's family had anything to do with it.

"Her mother once hired a private investigator to tail me. So I won't put this past them," Tom explained.

"They did? When? How come you never mentioned it?" Lucy asked with a frown.

"I didn't? My apologies. It must have slipped my mind," Tom said apologetically as he patted her hand.

"It's fine. While you meet with Mr. Wyatt, I will talk to my family about my plan to address the issue on a live video."

"Yeah, I'm with you on that," Sonia said supportively.

"I suppose I'm not coming with you to this meeting?" Bryan asked, and Tom gave him a nod.

"Yeah. There's no need for you to come with me," Tom said with a nod.

"Alright. I also have a couple of things that I need to handle on my end," Bryan said before turning to Sonia.

"I was thinking, what if all three of us do the live video together? I think my presence might help. Knowing Lucy has my backing will go a long way in making people more willing to hear her out." Bryan said, making Tom raise a brow.

"You really want to get the brother-in-law of the year award, don't you?" Tom asked dryly, and Bryan grinned at him.

Tom turned to Lucy, "Don't do the video without me. Let's just get it all out in the open and be done with the secrets. Knowing you don't just have my brother's backing, but that you're actually my girlfriend will help to resolve things faster," Tom said confidently.

"You want to reveal your identity?" Lucy asked in surprise.

"I don't see why not.. No time is better than now, to do so," Tom said with a wink.