

Wild Night 241

Chapter 241 - Working Overtime

Although it was a Saturday morning, Amy walked into her office with a displeased look on her face as she joined four of her colleagues who were already gathered there and were waiting for her.

"Why did you all have to keep ringing my line?" Amy asked in annoyance as she eyed them. The rest of them were still dressed in the clothes they had worn the previous day unlike her who was dressed in tennis shorts, an oversized polo t-shirt, and a pair of sneakers.

Seeing the empty styrofoam cups of coffee on their desks, it was clear that they had slept in the office and had worked over the night. It served them right?

"We are sorry, okay? We are all a team and we need your help to do this, please," One of the men pleaded.

"I don't see why you're doing any of this when you already concluded that she was guilty. I was on my way somewhere when you called," Amy said impatiently.

"Tell her what you learnt," the other men, told one of the ladies who stood with both arms folded across her chest.

"She might not be guilty as we thought..."

"Point of correction, as YOU thought. I never thought she was guilty, and even if she did kill him, I'm positive she had good reasons for doing so," Amy cut in, and the others sighed.

"You're right. We spent most of the night going through articles on the case eight years ago, and I called an acquaintance of mine who was in that school at the same time as Miss Perry," the lady who was giving Amy the breakdown of all they had done said, looking shamefaced.

"And?" Amy asked with a slightly raised brow.

"He said he vividly remembers the incident with Miss Perry because his best friend was assaulted by the college student in question. According to him, the guy used to confront and assault any guy that showed interest in Miss Perry, claiming he was her boyfriend," the lady added.

"But he wasn't her boyfriend?" Amy asked, shuddering involuntarily at the thought of a guy doing that to men who were interested in her.

"No. I don't think he was. According to Miss Perry's best friend's testimony..."

"Why don't you tell her who Miss Perry's best friend is?" The second lady in the unit asked, unable to conceal her excitement since she was the one who had made the connection between Miss Perry's best friend, and the CEO's younger brother.

Amy tried to hide her curiosity as she turned to look at the lady. Although she had been worried the previous day when the CEO ordered them to prove Lucy's innocence or lose their jobs, she had been reassured by Lucy's words the previous day and had decided to let her teammates do the job alone while she focused on her weekend sports as usual. Seeing how much they had uncovered, and how excited they were to share what they knew, she somehow wished she had joined them.

"Miss Perry's best friend is Sonia Smith!" The second lady who couldn't wait for her colleague to say it blurted it out herself.

"Sonia Smith?" Amy asked, trying to recall where she has seen or heard that name recently.

"Come on, Amy! Don't tell us you don't who Sonia Smith is!" One of the men exclaimed in disappointment when they saw how her brows furrowed as she tried to figure out who Sonia Smith was, and why they were excited about her being Miss Perry's best friend.

"Who is she?" Amy asked dourly.

"She is Bryan Hank's fiancée who just broke up their engagement yesterday. And just in case you don't know who Bryan Hank is, he is the CEO's younger brother," the first lady explained, and Amy's eyes widened slightly as realization dawned on her.

"That explains why the CEO made her his personal assistant, and it also explains why he is taking her side. He probably already knows about what happened since she is like his sister-in-law, right?" One of the men asked.

"And more important than that, Miss Perry's best friend, Sonia is the half-sister of the college student who the media claims she murdered. Would you remain friends with your best friend if she murdered your half-brother and your parents?" The second lady asked.

"Now back to what I was saying, according to the articles we saw on the news, Miss Perry couldn't say a word during the court proceedings because according to the doctors she was still in shock, and so her best friend spoke in her defense, and some of their male classmates also testified. Sonia's half-brother stalked her, and then he abducted her on her prom night..."

Amy shuddered and raised both hands to stop her, "Is this a movie or you're actually being serious?" She asked in horror.

One of the men raised the printed article for Amy to see, "It was in the news. Maybe if we had done proper research before jumping to conclusions, we wouldn't have said all that we said about her yesterday without knowing the truth," he said sadly.

"So can you all let me speak without interrupting me anymore?" The first lady asked irritably.

"Sorry. You can go on," the others said.

"So as I was saying, he abducted her, and her parents reported her missing when they didn't see her after twenty-four hours."

"It took them twenty-four hours to realize she was missing? Does that make sense?" Amy asked in disbelief. At that age, her mother would realize she was missing within an hour because the woman never ran out of errands to send her.

"That was explained," the first lady said as she went on to tell Amy how Lucy had pretended that she was going to be attending prom, but had told Sonia she would be home with her parents. And how her parents had left her at home by herself thinking she was waiting for her prom date. The drink had been spiked at the party, so her twin brother who was with his girlfriend had been too hungover to notice her absence, and Sonia had stayed at her home all day, leading their parents to believe that Miss Perry had spent the night at Sonia's, until Sonia came visiting that evening, and they all realized that she was missing. It took them a week to find her.

A tear dropped from Amy's eyes as she listened to them, "It took twenty-four hours for her absence to be noticed, and a week to find her. That must have been so scary for a kid at that age," Amy said emotionally.

"I would kill the bastard if she was my sister," one of the men said, and the others nodded.

"Yet his parents had the guts to accuse Miss Perry of murdering their son when according to Sonia they destroyed every evidence in their son's bedroom that would prove that he was stalking Miss Perry," the first lady said, and Amy felt her blood boil in anger.

"Who was the bastard who put up this news on the internet, and what did the person stand to gain by making the poor lady relive such a horrible experience?" Amy asked no one in particular.

"Who knows? That's why we called you. What should we do with all that we have found? Are we to wait until Monday to talk to speak with the CEO? We would like to apologize to Miss Perry. We already went to all the social media accounts where people are bashing her to defend her. We also sent the message to our friends to do the same, and we reached out to other departmental heads to spread the news in the departmental group chats," the first lady said, as Amy wiped an angry tear from her eyes.

"I won't say I'm still not disappointed in all of you. But I'm glad you're making an effort to clear her name. Let's all publish the evidence we have on our social media page. I'm sure that will make things easier for Miss Perry," Amy suggested as she went to take her seat.

"Do you think people will believe this? Especially if it's based on Sonia's testimony?" The second lady asked as the others went to take their seat.

"What do you mean?" Amy asked with a frown, and the lady rolled her eyes at Amy's ignorance.

"Sonia has been trending for all the wrong reasons since she broke off her engagement with Bryan yesterday. The media claims they are not in a real relationship and they deceived everyone, but Bryan's agency released an article over an hour ago saying Sonia emotionally blackmailed Bryan into getting involved with her just to ride on his coattail. I don't think anyone is going to believe that Miss Perry is innocent based on Sonia's testimony," the second lady explained, "Not that I believed anything I read," she quickly added when Amy pursed her lips thoughtfully.

"Thinking about it now, what if Sonia broke up the engagement with Bryan when she saw the news about her best friend? That may be the reason she did that, right? Maybe she didn't want to drag Bryan into it?" The first lady asked curiously.

"That is possible, but that doesn't explain the issue about her using Bryan to get fame," one of the men pointed out.

"I don't think Sonia was using Bryan though. Those people have real chemistry," the first lady said, and the second lady nodded.

"The lady who interviewed them at the beginning of the show is my cousin's friend, and she said she doesn't think they're faking things either," the second lady said.

"Why does it sound like the same person that started Miss Perry's issue, is behind this too? Do you all think it is a coincidence that both best friends are having issues at exactly the same time?" Amy asked thoughtfully, and the others paused to consider it.

"Who could be behind it? And why?" One of the men asked.

"Let's leave that to them to figure out. Your cousin's friend works for a newspaper?" Amy asked the second lady curiously.

"No. Opal's magazine," the lady corrected.

"If I'm not mistaken, that is the most read magazine in the country. Do you think she would be willing to help us cover this? Maybe if I could visit Miss Perry, and convince her so that she and her best friend would clear the air by granting the lady an interview?" Amy asked hopefully.

"I don't see why not. Lots of media houses would be wanting this opportunity. I doubt that either Miss Perry or Sonia would be willing to do it though," the second lady said.

"Leave that to me. I will try to convince her," Amy said confidently as she stood up to leave for Lucy's house.

"I will come with you. I need to apologize to her," one of the men said, looking very embarrassed.

"It will be best if you all focus on spreading the proof of her innocence on social media while I try to convince her. You can all apologize to her after we have restored her dignity," Amy said before walking away.

She knew that what she was going to ask Lucy to do was quite difficult, but that was the only way.. Telling the truth was the only way to expose a lie.

Chapter 242 - Confirmation

Now that Bryan was left alone in the house after Tom had left to meet with Mr. Wyatt, and both Sonia and Lucy had gone to her apartment to speak with her family, Bryan decided to return his mother's and Jade's call.

He dialed his mother's line first, and almost immediately the call connected as though she had been waiting for it, "Bryan Hank! Where have you been?" She asked in a scolding tone.

"Is that what is most important to you right now, or you should be glad that I'm okay and didn't run off somewhere to take my life as I had planned?" Bryan asked dramatically.

"What? You planned to take your life? Because of that girl?" His mother asked in disbelief and Bryan rolled his eyes.

"That girl? Can you tell me why you are referring to your soon-to-be daughter-in-law as that girl?" He asked dryly, knowing that his mother was probably against Sonia now after all that had transpired in the last twenty-four hours. Of course, he had heard from Tom about what their mother had to say about his relationship with Lucy, and he was disappointed that she had been quick to join the bandwagon.

"After all the troubles she and her best friend has caused you and your brother how can you still refer to her as my daughter-in-law?" His mother asked with disapproval, wondering why her children were all being unreasonable.

"I don't remember complaining to you, and I'm sure Tom didn't either, so let us be. I just called to let you know that I'm alright and you don't need to worry about me," Bryan said as he made to hang up, but she quickly stopped him.

"Wait! Where are you?" His mother asked curiously.

"Why are you so interested in my location? Are you coming to see me?"

"What if I want to see you?" She asked.

"I won't be able to see you right now, I'm busy and I know that you won't be of help to me," Bryan said bluntly.

"What do you mean by that?" She asked in a slightly offended tone.

"Mom, in as much as I love you, and I understand that you want what is best for your children, you should also understand that both Sonia and Lucy are also other people's children and you shouldn't be quick to believe the worst about people that are not part of your family," Bryan said in a chiding tone.

"But it's all over the internet and..."

"Mom! Do you really believe everything you see on the internet?" Bryan cut in impatiently, trying not to raise his voice at her.

She let out a sigh, "Is that why you don't want me to see you? Your brother has also been avoiding my call," she said in a hurt tone.

"I'm sure he has good reasons for avoiding your call. I would avoid your calls too if you speak ill of either Sonia or Lucy. So if you won't help us, don't interfere and don't tell us what to do or not do unless you would like me to get married to Sonia without inviting you," Bryan threatened.

"All this for a girl that broke up with you after using you to..."

"Mom!" Bryan called in a warning tone, and she sighed.

"Fine. Have you heard from your brother?" She asked, changing the subject.

"He is fine if that's what you want to know."

"Ask him to give me a call. Please." She added, and Bryan sighed.

"I've heard you. Just don't give him a hard time, he has enough on his plate already," Bryan advised.

"Okay, I won't. So what about you? What is going on between you and Sonia? Are you saying everything on the internet is a lie? Is it some sort of prank?" She asked curiously.

"Sonia and I are cool. She only wanted to end things because she needed to help Lucy out with her issue, and she didn't want my career to be affected in any way because of her involvement with Lucy," Bryan explained.

"Are you sure?" His mother asked doubtfully.

"I'm telling you the truth, Mom. Lucy is being bashed unfairly. And just so you know the family they claim she murdered is Sonia's family. Do you think Sonia would remain her best friend if everything they said is true?" He asked, and his mother's brows furrowed.

"Sonia's family?" She asked in surprise.

"Yes. Someone is picking on Lucy, and we all need to stand beside her now. You don't expect Tom to end things with her simply to save his company, do you? That is not the way you raised us. Don't worry about the company or my career. Just trust us to handle it, okay?" Bryan said, and his mother sighed once again, as she started to feel guilty for all she said about Lucy and Sonia without knowing the facts.

"Okay. Let him know that I'm sorry for all I said yesterday and ask him to give me a call," she said after a moment's hesitation, and Bryan smiled.

"I knew you would understand. I need to return Jade's call now. I love you mom, and I will pass your message to Tom. Try not to worry too much, your boys are men now," Bryan said before hanging up the call.

Evelyn sighed as she dropped the phone on the table in front of her, and turned to look at her husband who was staring at her, "What do you think?"

"Bryan really does sound all mature and grown-up now," he said with a small smile, "All three of our children are not stupid. If they all say the girl is innocent of the accusations, then you should believe them. Don't worry too much. We have done a good job of raising them, now let's watch them do their thing, okay?" He said, and Evelyn let out a sigh as she leaned back in her seat.

Tom sipped from his glass of wine as he watched Mr. Wyatt who was seated opposite him. He knew that his call must have come as a surprise to the man since they had no business together, and the last time they had met, their interaction had not been exactly pleasant.

"Are we going to sit here drinking wine all day?" Mr. Wyatt asked in an irritated tone.

"Why? Are you in a hurry to go somewhere?" Tom asked, and the elderly man glared at him.

"I see you don't have anything to say," he said as he pushed his seat away from the table.

"Let me guess, you're in a hurry to meet your doctor's appointment? Or are you going to Club Edge?" Tom asked, and the man's heart skipped a beat as he looked at him in surprise and adjusted his seat.

How did he know he frequented Club Edge? Mr. Wyatt wondered as he shifted in his seat uncomfortably, "I don't know what you're talking about," Mr. Wyatt murmured, but didn't meet Tom's piercing gaze.

Tom dropped the glass of wine on the table, "Perhaps you need me to simplify things using pictures," Tom said as he slid a brown envelope from his end of the table to Mr. Wyatt's, "These should tell you what I'm talking about," Tom said as he gestured to him with his head to check the content of the envelope.

Mr. Wyatt's forehead was suddenly coated with beads of sweat, and his hands shook as he reached for the envelope. He opened it slowly, and his face paled when he saw different pictures of himself seated on a gambling table at Club Edge, and in one of the pictures he was handing over his car key to someone on the gambling table. Inside the envelope was a slip of his latest medical fitness result which showed that his only health condition was his high blood pressure.

"Why are you doing this? What do you want?" He asked without taking his eyes off the pictures.

"What do you know about the news circulating the internet regarding my personal assistant?" Tom asked, and Mr. Wyatt raised his head to meet Tom's gaze.

"Why are you asking me that?" He asked in confusion.

"Because if you don't tell me what I want to know, I will go straight to your sister and your niece and confront them myself. The only problem with that is that I don't know if I'm going to be able to keep everything I know away from your sister. Your sister doesn't know that you lied about your health, does she? Or maybe I should just hand this information over to someone reliable to post them on the internet?" Tom asked, and Mr. Wyatt took out his handkerchief from his pocket and wiped the sweat on his forehead.

Seeing the hesitation on his face, Tom went on, "I wonder what she would do to you when she finds out that you sold the airline which you both inherited from your parents just to take care of your gambling mess," Tom said with a shake of his head.

"I have nothing to do with your assistant's problem," Mr. Wyatt said defensively.

"But you know who is behind it, don't you? I just need you to tell me if either your sister or your niece is involved. That is the only thing I'm interested in," Tom said with a shrug. All he needed at this point was confirmation of Anita's involvement in this, and from a reliable source too.

Mr. Wyatt swallowed nervously as he thought about his sister. She was going to kill him if she found out that he was still very much into gambling and had sold the airline because he was in debt and not because he was ill. He couldn't let her find out about it else she would take whatever little he had left from him, and kick him out.

Tom sighed, "I guess you really don't know. I should ask them myself then," he said as he stood up, and Mr. Wyatt quickly stopped him.

"I think Anita is behind it," he blurted out with his eyes closed, praying that both his sister and niece would forgive him for betraying them. Although he would rather betray them and not have someone like Tom in the family.

Satisfied by his response, Tom returned to his seat and looked at him curiously, "How so?"

Mr. Wyatt swallowed as he recalled how his oldest niece had called his sister in front of him to inform her that the CEO whom Anita was interested in was also interested in his personal assistant and pretending to be her driver. His sister had immediately called Anita to hear from her, and Anita had assured her that she had everything under control, and she had something up her sleeves, and once she revealed a secret she knew, Lucy would be forced to disappear from Tom's life.

"She found out that you were pretending to be your assistant's driver, and wanted to get rid of her so that she could have you," Mr. Wyatt explained.

"So she knows my real identity," Tom murmured more to himself than to Mr. Wyatt. He wasn't surprised since he had been suspecting it all along.. Now that he knew for a fact that it was Anita behind it, he was just going to focus on clearing Lucy's name first, before teaching Anita a lesson.

Chapter 243 - Jeff? Mia?

"Are you sure you will be fine? I mean you only just agreed to see a therapist after all these years, and all of a sudden you want to talk in front of the camera to people that don't care about you?" Lucy's mother asked in concern after Lucy finished sharing her plan with them.

"I'm not seventeen anymore, mom. I already told you I can handle this. I will be okay," Lucy assured her with a smile.

This was something she knew that she needed to do to eventually be free from the past, else it was going to keep coming back up in the future, and she couldn't deal with that. If she could talk to a therapist about it, then she could as well talk to the camera. If anything happened to her while filming it, at least the viewers would see firsthand the effect of their careless words.

"Don't worry, I will do it with her, so she will be fine," Sonia assured Lucy's mother, and she turned to Sonia.

"What about you? Will you be alright? They're still your family after all," Lucy's mother asked with a concerned frown.

"Sure. I'm okay," Sonia said with a small smile, feeling somewhat grateful that they were also thinking of her wellbeing.

"How are you doing today? You weren't really yourself yesterday, and we didn't want to bother you because we were aware of your breakup with the actor," Lucy's father said, and Sonia's smile widened.

"You don't have to worry. We have reconciled, so I'm okay," Sonia assured him, and his face fell.

"Ouch! Here I was thinking he was out of the picture and you could focus on me again," he said with a teasing grin, making them laugh.

"Well, I'm glad you worked things out and you're both back together now. I was really worried about you. You know, being Lucy's best friend you would always have reasons to run into him if she ends up marrying his brother..."

"I never said I was getting married to him," Lucy said with a roll of her eyes, feeling embarrassed that everyone kept speaking about her relationship with Tom with regards to marriage when they had barely dated for a week.

"Well, you will. I won't let you throw away a man who loves you the way Tom does. Can you believe that both brothers were out all night trying to find who posted the stuff on the internet? And even now he is out there trying to get evidence," Sonia told Lucas.

"That's pretty impressive. Both brothers must really love you both a lot to want to be involved in all this regardless of how it must be affecting them personally," Lucas who had remained quiet the whole time said thoughtfully.

He couldn't help thinking about how Rachel who was his fiancée was busy asking him not to get involved in his family's mess, while these men whose reputations meant a great deal to them were busy sticking out their neck for his sister and Sonia. It kind of said a lot about the kind of person Rachel was, and about his relationship with her.

Lucy looked at Lucas, and their eyes met. She didn't need him to speak further to know what he was thinking, "I guess different people love differently," Lucy said, trying to ease his mind, and the doorbell rang at the same time.

"I will see who is at the door," Lucy told them as she picked up her glasses from her dressing table, and put them on before walking out of the bedroom to the living room. It was past noon already, and she was still dressed in her pyjamas, and she honestly didn't mind.

"Isn't it beautiful how they both got involved with two brothers? I still have a hard time believing it was all coincidence," Lucy's mother said to her husband.

"Have I told you that I met their parents at the hospital?" Lucas asked, surprising their parents and Sonia who weren't aware of it.

"You mean she was trying to hook you up with Jade?" Sonia asked with a peal of amused laughter as they listened to Lucas narrate all about his session with the Hank couple.

"It's a good thing you invited them to your wedding! I can't wait to meet the wonderful couple who raised such wonderful men for my girls," Lucy's mother said happily as she imagined both Lucy and Sonia walking down the aisle on the same day while she stands as the mother of both brides. She did not doubt that their wedding would be grand.

Once Lucy opened the door she was surprised to see Amy standing there, "Hello!" Amy greeted with an apologetic smile as Lucy looked at her, taking in her tennis outfit.

"I'm sorry to barge in on you unannounced. I feared you wouldn't take my call, so I didn't bother to call," Amy said as she took in Lucy's pyjamas and disheveled hair which was not tied back as usual, "Are you fine?" Amy asked with concern.

"Yeah. Sure. Is everything okay?" Lucy asked as she held the door open for Amy to walk in. Once Amy did, she shut the door behind her.

"Yes. Everything is fine. I was at the office earlier, you know, regarding the teamwork the CEO gave us," Amy reminded her.

Lucy sighed when she remembered what Tom had done the previous day, "Oh, that! I told you that you guys didn't have to worry about it," Lucy said as she pushed her glasses up the bridge of her nose.

"Please sit down and make yourself comfortable. Do you want coffee?" Lucy asked, and Amy shook her head as she sat down.

"No. Thanks. Let's just talk," Amy said, implying that she wanted Lucy to also sit down and talk to her.

"I already told you, it's not necessary. You all don't have to worry. I'm handling things already," Lucy said as she sat on the other couch.

Once Lucy had sat down, Amy leaned forward in her seat, "Well, it was necessary. At least right now every one of them is making an effort to quell the rumors and prove your innocence. If the CEO hadn't done what he did, I doubt they would have done their research to see if you were guilty or not."

"They're trying to quell it? How?" Lucy asked curiously.

"For starters, I asked them to publish some of the news clips from eight years ago, especially the testimony of your best friend whose family was involved, and those of some of your male classmates who were harassed by the psycho. That is part of the reason I'm here," Amy said and stood up in surprise when Lucy's parents, Lucas and Sonia walked into the living room.

"I'm sorry, I didn't realize that you had company. I can come back later," Amy apologized as she stood up, but Lucy's mother waved off her apology.

"That is nonsense. Sit down and tell us what you were just saying," Lucy's mother as she sat beside Lucy, while Lucas and Sonia went over to the kitchen to bring out the twin cane chairs.

"This is Amy, she is my secretary. Amy, these are my parents, my twin brother, and Sonia my best friend," Lucy briefly introduced them before giving Amy the go-ahead to say what she had to say.

They all listened quietly to Amy as she shared her plan with them, and by the time she was done, Lucy and Sonia exchanged a glance, "It's a good idea, thanks. But we already agreed to use my neighbor's YouTube channel. She's a blogger," Lucy explained.

"A YouTube channel? I don't think the video will receive as much attention as Opal's Magazine would," Amy pointed out.

"It will don't worry," Lucy said confidently, not willing to divulge Bryan's and Tom's plan to feature in the video to Amy. Although she was grateful to Amy, she couldn't be as trusting as she had been anymore. And she believed that a video would be more effective than a magazine.

"I think you should..."

"Or maybe my wife and I could feature on the magazine instead? We were unfairly accused of using our so-called wealth to turn the case in our daughter's favor after all," Lucy's father interjected.

"I think the public's opinion is beginning to sway already," Lucas said, raising his phone to show them the arguments which were going on on Twitter regarding the issue. While some people believed the new evidence that had surfaced on the internet regarding Lucy's innocence, there were others who still strongly believed that Lucy was guilty and was once again trying to bury the case by bringing up false evidence and they were pointing to the fact that Sonia the 'coattail climber' could not be trusted if she was involved in it.

"That reminds me, don't you think the same person might be behind both scandals? I mean it can't just be a coincidence that you are both under attack at the same time, can it? It's just too timely. If Miss Smith's scandal hadn't surfaced at this time, she would have easily been a reliable witness to prove your innocence. But now whatever she says will be discredited unless she is also able to prove that she is innocent of the allegations leveled against her," Amy pointed out, and Sonia's eyes narrowed suspiciously.

She has been so upset about her breakup with Bryan and then worried over Bryan's disappearance that she hadn't thought of it until now. Amy's theory made sense. It didn't make sense that anyone

would just jump to the conclusion that her relationship with Bryan was fake simply because she broke off their engagement. Celebrities did that all the time. The only way someone could have come up with that was if they were sure beyond reasonable doubt that the relationship was fake.

Apart from Bryan, Lucy, Jeff, Mia, and Bryan's CEO she doubted that there was anyone else who knew about their false engagement. And she highly doubted that it was Lucy or Bryan who had given out such information to the press. It couldn't be the CEO either. Bryan was a major star in his agency and he wouldn't do anything to jeopardize Bryan's chances, at least he had proved how far he was willing to go and protect Bryan's career. Jeff was Bryan's manager and he had nothing to gain by doing something like this, so who could it be? Mia? Mia was like a sister to her and even though Bryan could be very annoying, she knew for a fact that both Bryan and Mia had mutual respect for each other, so who else could it be?

At that same time, Lucy's brain was working in overdrive. She could remember vividly that she had mentioned to Anita that the CEO was nice to her because of her relationship with the CEO's soon-to-be sister-in-law. It only made sense that if Anita was behind her problem, she would also have tried to find a way to remove Sonia from the picture.. But then, Anita had no idea that Sonia was going to break up with Bryan that day, so how come all the plans had fallen into place? Unless of course, she had planned to reveal that the engagement was fake and ruin their relationship, but unfortunately for her, Sonia had been fast enough to end the relationship herself, thus changing Anita's plans. The question which was now begging for an answer was how did Anita find out about the fake engagement?

Chapter 244 - Tell The Truth

Even though Tom had asked him to just focus on Jade's case and leave the company and Lucy's issue to him, Harry couldn't help being restless. He was bothered by all that was going on, especially since he was already involved in all of it.

Somehow even though he wasn't very close to Lucy, he had come to become fond of teasing her, so his worry wasn't just because of his duty to Tom. Lucy was someone Tom was in love with, and Tom was his best friend.

He stared blankly at the laptop screen in front of him, before picking up his phone. He went on social media to take a look at all that was happening, and he was slightly relieved to see that Lucy now had people who were defending and supporting her.

His relief was soon replaced with curiosity, and then anger as he read through the old news clips that were attached to the posts, and he suddenly understood Tom's reaction when he saw what Lucy had endured at such a young age, and was being forced to face again now because of someone stupid who had posted started this news without checking the facts.

He felt disappointed in himself for trying to stop Tom from getting 'too' involved because of the little pressure he had faced. The pressure he had faced was nothing compared to what Lucy was facing. Lucy needed all the love and support she could get, and he was sure that most of the shareholders had daughters too and would be able to understand Lucy and relate with her family once they saw all of this.

He downloaded all the attached photos and connected his phone to his system so that he could copy the photos before logging into his Gmail account on his system. He copied all the shareholders he could, as he started to compose a text.

He raised his head when his bedroom door was suddenly pushed open a while later and Jade raised her hands in defense when he glared at her.

"Don't give me that look. I'm properly covered, and I knocked but you didn't respond so I had to come in," she said defensively as she approached him, dressed in a flowing dress.

"What do you want?" He asked impatiently.

"Are you busy?"

"As you can see," Harry said, still looking at her as he waited for her to say what she wanted to say and leave so that he could return to what he was doing.

"With what?" Jade asked as she made to sit on his bed, but one look at the way he looked at her, she straightened up and sighed, "I thought we were past this now and was beginning to work well together. Besides, what are you busy doing? It's weekend, and Tom already asked you to focus on my case. Is that what you are working on?" Jade asked as she tried to take a peek at what he was doing.

Seeing how curious she was, and knowing that she wasn't going to leave until he answered her question, Harry handed his phone to her so that she would see the development on Lucy's case, "I'm sure you've been too busy with your case to follow up on this."

"Wow!" Jade murmured as she went to sit by his dressing table while she digested all she was reading, "That must have been tough for a girl at that age," she said with a deep frown when she finished, and returned his phone to him.

"I thought so too," He said as he turned his laptop to her so that she would see what he was trying to do, "I'm trying to compose an email. I want to send an email to the shareholders with these photos attached. They should at least see the other side of the story before making their judgments," Harry said, and Jade gave him a nod.

"Yeah. I thought as much. I didn't think you would abandon the company just because Tom asked you to. It's not like you," Jade said with a small smile.

"Good. So now that you know what I'm doing can you quietly state what you want and leave?" He asked in a pleading tone.

"I thought you changed your mind about me leaving. How can I help?" She asked, changing the subject from why she had come into the room.

She had actually come in wanting to know if he had heard from his men regarding Jero's current location or if Jero had tried to contact Brandy yet, but that could wait since nobody's life was in danger at the moment. Family came first.

"How about you help by excusing me so that I can focus on this?" Harry asked hopefully.

"But I really want to help," Jade insisted with a pout.

"I don't need your help. If you need to help your brothers, then give either of them a call and find out what is going on and how we can help them from here," Harry suggested instead.

"You're so mean and cold," Jade muttered as she walked out of the bedroom, and without sparing her a glance, Harry returned his attention to the text he was composing.

Once Jade got to her bedroom she slumped on her bed, and lay face up as she considered how she could help her brothers. Not necessarily her brothers but their girlfriends, since the scandals was revolving around both ladies. Wasn't that weird? Was it a coincidence that the two best friends who were dating her brothers were in a mess at the same time? Were they in a mess because they were best friends? Or was it because they were dating her brothers? Or was it because they were two best friends who were dating her brothers?

She sat up when her phone started ringing and she quickly received the call when she saw that it was Bryan, "Bryan?" She asked immediately it connected.

"It's Bryan unless of course, you were expecting someone else to be with my phone. I wonder why," Bryan said dryly, and Jade felt relieved to know that he was sounding like his usual sarcastic self.

"I was really worried about you. How are you? And why did you turn off your phone?" Jade asked with concern.

"Are you really asking me that because you don't know why?"

Jade sighed, "How are you now? And where are you?"

"I'm standing by a bridge. I felt I should say goodbye to you before I jump," Bryan said, and Jade's brows pulled together as she tried to figure out whether he was joking or pulling her legs.

Bryan chuckled when Jade didn't say anything, "Relax. I was just pulling your legs. Why would your voice be the last I want to hear before jumping to my death? I'm at Tom's house," Bryan said, and Jade let out the breath she hadn't realized she was holding.

"Oh, that's such a relief! And you better stop making useless jokes. How is Tom? And what are you both doing? I saw the news about your engagement with Sonia. Don't you think you have something to tell me?"

"Tom's okay. Just busy. We are busy. What do you want me to tell you?" Bryan asked, playing dumb.

"We both know that I suspected from the start that your engagement was fake even when you kept insisting that it was real. I have no doubt that feelings must have been developed between you two since then, but I want to hear the truth now."

"Does it matter?"

"It does. And I want to hear the truth right now."

Bryan sighed. He was going to have to tell his family the truth eventually anyway, "Fine."

Jade listened in disbelief as Bryan went on to tell her how he had approached Sonia at the lobby of the hotel and popped the question to her the first time he set eyes on her.

"Wait! What? Just like that? A random stranger? Are you crazy? What were you thinking? That you were shooting one of your romance movies? Or what?" Jade asked incredulously.

"I thought someone as pretty as she might be in a relationship and she would reject me," Bryan pointed out.

"Why would you think that? You are wealthy, good-looking, famous and any right-thinking gold-digging girl in a relationship wouldn't mind breaking up with her man just to be with you. I'm not saying Sonia is a golddigger, I'm just pointing out a fact that you obviously didn't consider. You could have been blackmailed!"

"But I wasn't. All of that doesn't matter now. I'm in love with her, and she loves me too."

Jade let out a sigh. He was right. "I guess she broke up with you because of her involvement with Lucy?"

"Yes. But we have made up now. The only problem now is all the false accusations being hurled at her by my agency. This whole thing is my fault and Sonia only played along," Bryan said with a sigh.

"Have you figured out who could have exposed your false engagement to the press yet?" Jade asked curiously.

"I've been thinking about it. It couldn't have been mere speculation, right?" Bryan asked thoughtfully.

"No. What are the chances? Without documented evidence, such a piece of news would never have been brought to the press. So whoever exposed this probably has evidence."

Bryan said nothing as he thought about it. Evidence? What evidence could anyone possibly have? Maybe something he could have said at some point? Lucy was the only person Sonia had told about their fake engagement, and seeing how Tom didn't even know that his engagement to Sonia had been fake, it means Lucy didn't even tell him. That meant the leak was from his side. The only person who had been there that night was Mia, so she knew for a fact that it was fake. Jeff and the CEO only knew about it after asking Mia and confirming with him.

He had worked with all three of them long enough to know that neither of them was going to just release such information that would harm his career like this, not unless something else was involved and someone had something to gain from this. Or was it the production crew? What evidence could they have?

"So? Have you figured it out yet?" Jade asked when he said nothing after some time.

"I'm not exactly sure. But what evidence could they possibly have? If it was illegally obtained I can sue them, right?" Bryan asked thoughtfully.

"Sure, you can. But that's not the most important thing right now. Have you come up with a plan to fix it yet?"

"Yeah. We figured that we all do a live video together to show them we are still together and debunk the rumors,"

"The video is a good idea, but rather than just featuring in the video to debunk the rumors, you and Sonia should also tell the truth about your relationship."

"I don't think it is anybody's business," Bryan said dismissively.

"We both know that you know your life is everybody's business. That's what being a celebrity means. Just tell the truth."

"You are saying we should expose ourselves? What if it backfires and things become even worse?" Bryan asked thoughtfully, weighing the pros and cons.

"It will only become worse if you don't tell the truth. I'm sure someone is waiting for you to deny the allegations so that they can strike with the evidence. The moment you tell the truth, whatever evidence anyone has against you is useless whether it was legally or illegally obtained. Go with the truth, It's better that way for you both."

"Besides, you seem not to realize that you DID NOT commit a crime by proposing to a random stranger, even though it was a stupid move. Your only crime was in making the public believe that you have each other for sometime before the proposal. And you're also forgetting something important. Everyone likes a beautiful romance story with a bit of crazy in it. What could be more romantic than proposing to a random stranger and then ending up falling in love with her? It has never been heard of, and you're the very first celebrity to have done something that crazy."

"If you're able to tell the truth and clear Sonia's name, then Sonia can in turn clear Lucy's name. And then we can all focus on finding the people behind this mess."

"Did I ever tell you that I love you?" Bryan asked after giving it a thought.

"You can show me just how much you love me by buying me a..." She giggled when she heard the disconnect tone.. That damned brother of hers was always doing that.

Chapter 245 - Good Riddance To Bad Rubbish

"Who do you think leaked the information to the press?" Lucy asked Sonia after Amy had left, and they were both alone in Lucy's bedroom while her parents and Lucas were watching a movie in the living room.

"It has to be one of Bryan's people unless someone overheard something from one of them and leaked the information," Sonia said thoughtfully.

"I think Amy might have been right. What if Anita is actually behind all of this? The last time we were out together I told her that you were engaged to Bryan, and that was why Tom was being nice to me. What if she is trying to remove me from Tom's life by removing you from Bryan's life?" Lucy asked thoughtfully.

"It's stupid. But I wouldn't put something as stupid as that past someone like her. Anybody who is shallow enough to want to date only a wealthy man is capable of doing stupid things like this."

Both friends lapsed into silence, each occupied by their thoughts until Sonia broke it, "But are you sure you did not say anything that might have made her think that our engagement wasn't real?" Sonia asked, and Lucy raised a brow.

"Really? I didn't even tell Tom about it, and you think I would tell someone like Anita something as sensitive as that? Someone I don't even trust?" Lucy asked, and Sonia rolled her eyes.

"I didn't say you told her. I only asked if you could have said what you said in a way that would make her question my relationship with Bryan," Sonia explained.

"I didn't. You know what, I still have the recording of my conversation with Anita. You can just listen to it and tell me if you think I said something to make her misunderstand," Lucy said as she picked her phone from the nightstand and scrolled through it for the recording. Once she saw it she handed the phone to Sonia, "You can listen to it while I shower," Lucy said as she stood up and went to lock the bedroom door before taking off her clothes and walking into the bathroom.

A few minutes later Lucy came out of the bathroom, "So? Have you listened to it?" She asked as she toweled her body dry.

"Yes, I have. And I wasn't doubting you, Lu. I trust you," Sonia assured her as she tapped her fingers restlessly while she watched Lucy who was rubbing her body lotion on her body.

"What are you thinking about?" Lucy asked, when she noticed the way Sonia was staring at her, but not exactly looking at her. She could tell that something was on Sonia's mind.

"I'm trying to figure out how Anita might be related to any one of Bryan's people. That's the only way it would make sense, right? I mean, it's possible that after she heard about our relationship from you, she called someone and started looking for dirt on us, you know?" Sonia said, and Lucy nodded.

"So she possibly started with me, and then when she found out about the case, she saw that you were connected to it too, and started digging further into your life," Lucy reasoned.

"And when you're digging into a person's life it is possible you want to meet with people who know them. Apart from you and my editor the only other people who I've been with often were my ex-boyfriends. So someone could have questioned any of the guys I've been with in the past," Sonia said thoughtfully.

"Who was the last guy you slept with?" Lucy asked as she tried to remember. She reached for her phone and started checking their WhatsApp history to see their chats.

"Uhm, I think it was Derek. Yes, definitely Derek the crypto guy," Sonia said with a nod.

"Yes. It was Derek. And when did you break up with him?" Lucy asked.

"The day before your birthday, remember? He was texting and calling too much. And I was having writer's block. I got irritated. You know how I can get," Sonia said.

"Oh, yeah! And you accepted Bryan's proposal two days later," Lucy pointed out.

"Hmm. So it's possible they found out about him. So unless I was cheating on Bryan, there was no way I just broke up with one guy and got engaged to another two days later."

"And then they possibly approached one of Bryan's people to confirm your engagement?" Lucy said, and Sonia sighed.

"I will give Derek a call later to see if he talked to someone. If we confirm that he talked to someone, and we are able to link the person to your case, then we know for a fact that Anita is the one fucking with us. God save that bitch if she is behind this mess."

"Something tells me she's behind it," Lucy said as she tied her hair in a ponytail after dressing up. She wore a simple button-down knee-length denim dress.

"Me too, but we need evidence. I should get so that we can leave for Tom's apartment. Hopefully, they will have news for us," Sonia said as she stood up and undressed before walking into the bathroom.

Once Lucy walked out of the bedroom, she headed for the kitchen to find something to eat but stopped by the doorway when she overheard Lucas speaking in a hushed tone over the phone. From his posture, she could tell that he was very tense, so she just stood there and eavesdropped on his conversation.

"Really? You're asking me to choose between you and my twin sister? Have you gone insane?" Lucas asked, trying to keep his voice low so that his parents wouldn't hear him.

"I am the one you're getting married to, not your sister. I need to know that I will always come first in your life. I need to be sure that you won't leave me and our kids to go running to your sister every time something comes up in her life," Rachel said reasonably.

"Are you being serious right now?" Lucas asked in disbelief. It was one thing to have done this when they were young and in high school, but now they were both adults and she was doing this again?

"I am dead serious. You need to choose, Lucas. Is it going to be our relationship, or is it going to be Lucy?" Rachel asked adamantly.

"It is going to be my family, Rachel. I can't believe it took me so long to finally realize that you don't love me or my family. You just want to own me. Why are you so jealous of Lucy? Even at a time like this when she is having a hard time, you can't see past your jealousy and selfishness! Why?"

"How can you say that I don't love you? We have been together for ten years now! Am I asking too much by saying you need to focus less on Lucy and more on us? We are getting married and you're there when you should be here with me!" Rachel made sniffing sounds.

"And if the situation was reversed and your family was in this mess..."

"My family can never be involved in such a mess. That's why I'm saying you need to be careful. We are getting married and I can't let you get mixed up in Lucy's mess. I'm saying you this because I love you and..."

"Love? You don't know what love is, Rachel. A woman who truly loves me will never ask me to choose between my family and our relationship. She will stand by my family even when I turn my back on them. Do you know why? Because she loves me and sees my family as her own. If you love me, you will love the person who shared the same womb with me and has been part of my life long before you came into the picture."

"How can you even say that? She doesn't even like me!" Rachel cried defensively.

"How can she love you when you have never given her reasons to? Listen, Lucy has her place in my life, and you have yours. There has never been a competition between you both." Lucas fired back and then took in a deep breath to calm himself.

"I can't believe that you are even taking her side right now! You say this isn't a competition yet you left your fiancée to be with your sister," Rachel protested.

"You know what? Nevermind. It's all my fault. I should have realized this sooner. I thought if I continued to reassure you of how much I love you, you would change. But this is just who you are. Move your things out of my apartment and drop my spare key before I get back. And tell your folks that the wedding is off," Lucas said in a deadly calm voice, and then hung up before she could say anything.

He turned around when Lucy started clapping happily, "Wow! Bravo! Alas, your eyes have become open. We should toast to this," Lucy said as she walked over to the counter to pour some wine into two glasses.

"What is going on?" Her father asked as they joined them in the kitchen when they heard Lucy's voice.

"Lucas is no longer getting married to Rachel. I should probably not say this now, since I know that you actually love her, but I can't help it. Good riddance to bad rubbish," Lucy said as she raised one of the glasses in a silent toast and sipped from it.

"Not now, Lu. I'm not in the mood," Lucas said as he glared at his twin sister.

"Lucy behave yourself! Your brother is hurt," her mother chided as she went to stand beside Lucas.

"What happened?" Her mother asked.

"I think Rachel wanted him to choose between her and me. Can you believe it?" Lucy supplied, and once again Lucas glared at her.

"Well, you could have tried to talk things through..."

"Mom, stop pretending like you're not happy about this. We both know you never liked Rachel and were only tolerating her because of Lucas," Lucy cut in, and Lucas turned to look at his mother.

"Mom? Is that true?"

"Lucy," her father called in a warning tone before she could say anything else.

"Fine. I'm leaving. But before I go, just so you know, Lucas, you did the right thing. A broken engagement is better than a broken marriage, and trust me, your marriage would have been a total disaster. I'm not saying this because you chose me over her, no. I'm saying this because Rachel is a bitch. Everyone knows that apart from you.. She never deserved you," Lucy said, and walked out of the kitchen, leaving her parents to deal with Lucas.

Chapter 246 - Being Sensitive

After confirming Anita's involvement from Mr. Wyatt, he decided that he wanted proper evidence, "How do I know that you're telling me the truth? How am I sure you're not just telling me what you think I want to hear?" He asked.

"How do you think I know that you were pretending to be your assistant's driver?" Mr. Wyatt asked with a frown since he had not expected Tom to turn the table. He was now making it sound like he was the one falsely accusing his niece when it was he who had come pointing fingers.

"I don't know. You tell me."

Mr. Wyatt sighed. Now he was beginning to feel like a snitch. He hated himself for what he was doing, but he didn't have a choice. It was either this or face his sister's wrath. At least he could still run away with what little money he has left before his sister finds out about his gambling problem and takes everything from him. She was a control freak. Always had been.

"According to Anita's elder sister, she was at a beauty salon when one of the ladies there happened to be sharing the secret about how the CEO was acting as his assistant's driver. She relayed the information to the family. Anita went to the company and confirmed it," Mr. Wyatt explained.

Tom said nothing as he tried to reason it out. How did the lady at the salon hear of it? And how did Anita confirm it? His eyes narrowed when he remembered the company's doctor. The doctor was the only staff who worked in the company and knew about him being Lucy's driver.

He doubted that Anita would have confirmed it just from the doctor. She was a smart person. He tried to figure out where he would go first if he wanted information on two employees. A director and her driver. The HR department.

"I still need a confirmation," Tom stated, surprising Mr. Wyatt.

"I don't understand. You said all you wanted was for me to tell you if my sister was involved. I told you already. What else do you want me to say or do?"

"Give Anita a call, and get an oral confession from her," Tom said, jerking his head towards Mr. Wyatt's phone.

"ARE YOU INSANE?" Mr. Wyatt asked with wide eyes.

Tom sighed as he picked up his phone. He dialed Alicia's line and put it on speaker once the call connected, "I don't think Mr. Wyatt is willing to cooperate with me. You can release the article on his gambling habits."

"Alright. I will do just that," Alicia said so that Mr. Wyatt would know that Tom was really on the phone, and not bluffing.

"What? Why are you doing this?" Mr. Wyatt asked as he started sweating profusely now.

"Hang on, Alicia," Tom said as he looked at Mr. Wyatt, "Are you going to do it or not? I don't have all day. Unlike you, I don't gamble and I have business to attend to," Tom said impatiently.

Mr. Wyatt swallowed as he dialed Anita's line, and then placed the phone on the table between them.

"I will call you back," Tom informed Alicia before hanging up.

Meanwhile, Anita lay on her bed with a bowl of popcorn and a can of coca-cola as she entertained herself by reading through the comment session on the tweets about Lucy. She giggled when she saw the comments of those discrediting Sonia's testimony.

Sonia, that bitch! Although she had wanted to be the one to destroy Sonia's relationship with Bryan, it was a good thing that Sonia had done so herself. Her plan was still in place. The only new addition to it now was that she was going ruin the friendship between both girls. She couldn't believe that the bitch had spoken to her in such a rude manner. What little kindness she had left in

her for Lucy, was all gone now, thanks to her big-mouthed best friend. She was going to make sure that she ruined both of them.

She sat up when her phone started ringing, and she saw that it was a call from her uncle, and she received it immediately.

Tom placed the phone on recorder just as the call connected, "Hello, uncle!" Anita greeted.

"How are you?" Mr. Wyatt asked, trying to sound like his normal self.

"I'm fine, thank you. How is your health today?" She asked in concern.

"I'm okay. I just saw the stuff on the internet. Was that the secret you talked about the last time?" Mr. Wyatt asked, sounding curious, and Anita giggled.

"C'mon uncle, you shouldn't be asking me something like this," Anita said, trying to evade the question.

Tom pointed to the documents in front of Mr. Wyatt and mouthed, "Get her to talk, or I will expose these."

"You are just like your mother. I'm sure she will be so proud of you. This should send that rat into hiding. You still intend to get Thomas Hank, right?" Mr. Wyatt continued.

"Of course, I do. It's something I have to do for not just myself, but for the family too. I just need to get his assistant out of the way first," Anita said, and Mr. Wyatt chuckled.

"So now you admit that you are behind it. I hope you didn't leave any traces? You know you are my favorite niece, and your mother would be very upset if this is traced back to you," Mr. Wyatt said as though he was worried about her.

"I don't know why I can never lie to you uncle," Anita said with a small smile, "Don't worry about me. The people I gave the job to do not know who I am. It can never be traced to me or our family," Anita said confidently.

"What will you do if this doesn't work as planned? What if she is able to clear her name easily? You must have a plan B, right?" Mr. Wyatt asked, and Anita sighed.

"She won't be able to clear her name that easily. I made sure of it. And if peradventure she is able to do that, I also have my plan B. I'm my mother's daughter after all. Don't let me bore you with the details of my plan, I'm sure you have enough on your plate already. Thanks for your concern, uncle," Anita said, and Mr. Wyatt raised a brow at Tom.

"Alright, dear. Take care of yourself. I need to rest now," he said and hung up the call after receiving the go-ahead from Tom

"You're so good at this," Tom said with a mocking smile, "Send it to me," Tom ordered, and Mr. Wyatt immediately transferred the recorded phone conversation to him.

"Thank you for your help. I won't forget it," Tom said as he stood up, and then straightened his shirt before walking away.

As he drove back to his apartment, his blood boiled with anger as he replayed the phone conversation between Mr. Wyatt and Anita. Who did she think she was to do something like this?

What did she mean by she made sure of it that Lucy wouldn't be able to clear her name so easily?
And what was her plan B?

He thought about the different ways that he could deal with Anita. What punishment would ever be good enough for someone as despicable as her?

"Don't you think you were brutally honest just now? Lucas doesn't need that right now," Sonia said as she walked out of the apartment with Lucy.

"Really? Was I? Do you have any idea how things would have been for me if I didn't have you to rely on this whole time? Lucas is my only sibling. My twin brother. He was my only friend until Rachel came into the picture. I would never have chosen ANY guy over Lucas. Never. We had a bond and he let her come between us. After ten years he's only just realizing what I've been trying to say from the start? And you expect me to pat him on the back? No, I won't do that. He would have saved himself this heartbreak had he done the right thing from the moment she started all her nonsense."

Sonia paused to look at her, "I get that you're upset too, but Lucas is hurt. So what if it took him ten years or even thirty years to realize that she's not suitable for him? He is heartbroken right now and he needs you. He came all this way to be here for you. You can do better than this," Sonia said, and Lucy sighed.

"Yeah. I guess you're right," Lucy said as she looked from Tom's apartment to hers, and contemplated whether or not she should go back and say something to Lucas.

"But I have to admit that I'm happy he broke up with her ass. That bitch! I wish I could see her tears right now," Sonia said with a small laugh, and Lucy turned to give her a questioning look.

"Didn't you just scold me for rejoicing over it?"

"No. I meant we are free to rejoice and even celebrate behind him, but we can't do any of that in front of him. There is a difference. It is called being sensitive," Sonia said, and Lucy rolled her eyes.

"Whatever. I'm sure my parents will console him. I will just apologize to him when they're done," Lucy said as they both covered the rest of the distance to Tom's apartment.

Before they could ring the doorbell, Tom drove in, in one of his cars and both Lucy and Sonia turned to look at him. They waited until he had gotten out of the car before going to him, "So? How did it go? Anita is responsible for this, right?" Lucy asked curiously.

"Yes."

Chapter 247 - We Are Ready.

"I swear to God I'm going to kill that bitch when I set my eyes on her! I know we suspected her, but knowing for real that she is behind this, and hearing her say it so proudly, I feel so angry I could murder her right now!" Sonia shrieked angrily after they all listened to the recorded phone conversation between Anita and her uncle.

Lucy who was still staring at Tom's phone which was on the table turned to Sonia, "Calm down, Sony. We should..."

"Calm down? Are you kidding me? How can you be so calm, Lu? How?" Sonia asked incredulously as she stood up unable to stay still, "We just confirmed that the bitch is behind this, and you are keeping your calm? We should go over to her apartment and show her what a murderer can do. We should tear her apart limb by fucking limb," Sonia suggested, and both brothers exchanged a look, with Tom signaling to Bryan with his eyes to calm Sonia, while Bryan just grinned at him, enjoying Sonia's display of anger.

"Yeah, I'm angry too. Very angry actually. And I would love nothing more than to pull out all the hair on her head so that she would look like the ugly vulture she is, but anger isn't going to help the situation right now. Did you hear her? She even has a plan B. And we don't know what it is yet," Lucy pointed out.

"We don't need to know what it is. All we need to do is confront her with the truth we know now. I'm sure if I beat her to the point of coma, her plan B won't be an issue since she would be too busy fighting for her life to pay any attention to us," Sonia hissed in annoyance, and Bryan chuckled but quickly kept a straight face when Sonia shot him a look.

"Don't worry babe, you will have all the time you need to tear out limbs, and even her eyes and teeth if you want to. I could even hold her still for you while you do that. For now let's focus on clearing the mess she already created," Bryan told Sonia who was still seething, and he walked over to where she was, and pulled her back to their seat, "Relax."

"What do you think we should do?" Lucy asked both Tom and Bryan curiously.

"Let's proceed with the video as planned. Whatever her plan B is, I already paid the man who is working for her to inform me of whatever move she tries to make next. I still have one of my men tailing her movement, so let's not worry too much about her, and just keep pretending to be ignorant."

Sonia took in a deep breath as she tried to calm herself while Bryan patted her back, "Lucy told us about the move you made at the office with her teammates. It is helping," Sonia told Tom, who raised a brow.

"What move?" Bryan asked, and Sonia filled him in on it before Lucy quickly told the brothers about Amy's visit and updated them on what was happening on the internet regarding the news.

"I think all we need to do now is to release our statement to back it up," Lucy concluded, and Tom nodded.

"That is good. Amy has greatly impressed me in all of this," Tom noted, and Lucy nodded in agreement.

"Me too."

"She also suggested that this might not all be coincidence, and it makes sense," Sonia said, turning to Bryan as she explained how Anita might be involved in their scandal.

"Yes, it makes sense. I'm still trying to figure out which of my people could have informed the press about us," Bryan said with a sigh before turning to Tom.

"By the way, I spoke with mom and Jade earlier," Bryan informed Tom and chuckled when Tom tried to signal him with his eyes not to talk about his conversation with their mom in front of the ladies since he believed that it was going to be something bad.

"Let's speak in private. Please excuse us for a moment," Tom said, wanting to leave but Bryan didn't move.

"No need to speak in private. We are one biiiiig family now, aren't we?" Bryan drawled and gave both ladies a grin. "Don't worry, mom is fine, and she sympathizes with both her daughters-in-law. All she wants is for you to return her calls. She is very worried about you," Bryan said, and Tom scowled at him, while Sonia and Lucy looked at both brothers, wondering what was going on.

"I'll call give her a call later. What about Jade? What did she say?"

"She gave some sweet sisterly and legal advice. She wants Sonia and I to come clean to the public," Bryan said and went on to explain all that Jade had said.

Sonia pursed her lips thoughtfully, "She has a point. Let's do that. If they still don't believe it then maybe I can share the draft of my unpublished book as evidence," Sonia suggested.

"Good. Let's proceed. Enough with the plans, it's almost 4 pm already. Let's do the video, and then maybe we can have dinner with Lucy's family if she doesn't mind," Tom suggested hopefully.

"You're really eager to meet your in-laws, aren't you?" Bryan teased Tom.

"They're my family too, so they are also your in-laws." Sonia pointed out, and this time Tom chuckled as Bryan smiled sheepishly at Sonia.

"Then I guess we should meet our in-laws after doing this. What do you say to that sister-in-law?" Bryan asked as they all turned to Lucy who had a slight frown on her face.

"I don't have a large dining table or enough chairs to accommodate everyone."

"Should we order a dining set? Or better still, how about I invite your family over to my house instead? You could even pass the night. I have enough bedrooms, that way your father and Lucas don't have to stay at the hotel," Tom suggested, and Lucy looked at Sonia who was grinning.

"I would like to see his place. Besides, won't it be good to fuck with Anita? I don't mind sending her pictures of us having dinner at Tom's home. She should know that the foolish stunt she pulled made both families come together faster instead of separating us as she wanted," Sonia said with a touch of humor and they all laughed.

"My family wants to meet you too, so I guess they won't mind," Lucy said, and Tom smiled at her.

"Tom you can inform your nosy neighbor that we are ready," Bryan said, and Tom picked up his phone from the table to dial Alicia's line.

Harry's call came in before he could dial Alicia's number and he excused himself from the others and went into his bedroom before receiving the call, "Hey! What's up?"

"We are fine over here. What's going on over there?" Harry asked curiously.

"Harry, I already told you that you don't need to worry about..."

"I'm already worried. What's happening? And how can I be of help?" Harry asked, and Tom sighed.

"We already have things handled at this end. If you have nothing else to do over there, sleep or go on a date with the lady you were out with two nights ago," he said, not wanting to involve Harry

any more than was necessary. He hadn't realized just how much he had been overworking Harry until he snapped for those few seconds the previous day.

"Jade told you about the stunt she pulled?" Harry asked with disapproval.

He remembered how he had been dying to tell Tom how he had gotten a lady's attention without altering his appearance, but then this issue had come up before he could do so, and he had even forgotten all about Aurora until Tom mentioned her. He remembered the reminder she had set on his phone going off the previous day while he was busy receiving different phone calls from the shareholders, and he had canceled the reminder.

"Why? Were you hoping that I wouldn't know that you're dating?" Tom asked in amusement.

"Nice try at changing the subject. Now fill me in on what you have done and what you're doing. By the way, I already sent a mail to the shareholders letting them know that we are not going to let Lucy go and that I also stand by your decision to fire the staff who spoke without knowing the facts," Harry said, making Tom's brows shoot up.

"Why? What changed your mind?"

"It wasn't like I wasn't in support of you. I just didn't want you making rash decisions that I wouldn't be able to explain, but then after I saw the articles online that showed what really happened to Lucy, I got really mad. It's my duty to protect your woman too. So I want to help. Now tell me, have you found the real culprits behind it?" Harry asked curiously.

"It's Anita."

"What? Anita?" Harry asked in disbelief. He couldn't wrap his head around why Anita would do something as hateful as this.

"Yes. Apparently, she wants to get Lucy out of the way so that she can have me," Tom said with disgust. He could tell that Anita probably thought he wasn't aware of Lucy's past.

"And she had to do something as inhumane as this? We should teach her a lesson!"

"Let's talk about her later. What did the shareholders say? Did they respond to your email?" Tom asked, changing the subject, since the more he talked about Anita the more he wanted to do something harmful to her. He had more important things to handle at the moment, so he would have to take care of Anita later.

"Yes. Most of them are waiting for more evidence to surface. Until then they agreed to keep their calm and let us do what we think is best as long as it doesn't affect the company."

"Good. I should probably let you know that I've finally decided to reveal my identity today," Tom said, and Harry sat up.

"You mean you want everyone to know what you look like now?" Harry asked curiously.

"Yes. I also plan on revealing the nature of my relationship with Lucy today. You do not have any objections, do you?" Tom asked since Harry's opinion also mattered to him. In all the years he had chosen to stay away from public view, Harry had stood by him, and acted in his stead whenever his presence was needed.

"Well, at least now I don't have to worry about being the face of the company anymore," Harry said good-naturedly.

"You do. You should start thinking about becoming my Co-CEO..."

"Tom..."

"I know I put in a lot of money and work into this company. I also know that I'm the brain behind it, but you've put in even more work. It's only right that we make it official."

"Let's not think about this now. We can talk about it after we've taken care of this issue," Harry suggested instead.

"I already thought about it. I've been thinking about it for a long time now, so you can think about it."

Harry sighed, "So back to what we were saying. How can I help?"

"Since you're so bent on helping can you find out all you can on Anita? Preferably her financial record in Ocean Airlines, and her bank record too. If she is bent on doing this, then she must have enough money to pay the people doing her dirty job. The guy I put on her tail informed me that she visited the bank twice yesterday. The guy who handled Lucy's scandal also said that Anita paid him in cash. I'd like to know how much cash left her account or if she made any transfers and to who."

"Alright. Go on and do what you have to do. I will get back to you on this tomorrow," Harry said and Tom hung up the call.

Tom dialed Alicia's line immediately, "You can come over.. We are ready."

Chapter 248 - BrySon Interview (1)

"Are you both ready?" Alicia asked Sonia and Bryan who she was about to interview first. They had all agreed that they begin with Bryan's and Sonia's interview to draw attention to the channel so that lots of people would get to see Lucy's interview.

Following that, all of them had posted on their social media handles that whoever was interested in hearing their side of the story and knowing the truth should click on the YouTube link and subscribe to Alicia's channel so they would be notified once the interview started.

That way once they were able to clear Sonia's name and get enough attention, they could proceed with Lucy's and Sonia's interview where Sonia would defend Lucy, after which Tom would join them to reveal his identity and the nature of his relationship with Lucy.

Tom's living room had been set up in such a way that it looked like a studio, but none of them bothered to dress up formally for the interview, apart from Tom who was still dressed in the clothes he wore for his meeting with Mr. Wyatt.

"Wow! Although she had a good number of followers before now, it has tripled in the last hour since you made the post on your social media accounts," Jasmine who had now joined them and was handling the phone said in awe as she received more and more notifications of new subscribers.

"I think she deserves even more since she has been looking out for our Lucy," Sonia said with a small smile as Bryan helped her fix her microphone.

"We are set now. Let's begin," Bryan said with a nod, after making sure that Sonia was ready.

Alicia cleared her throat before giving Jasmine the go-ahead to start recording, "Hello, viewers! Welcome once again to my YouTube channel," Alicia greeted with a wave as she smiled at the camera, "For those who just recently subscribed to my channel, I'm Alicia Hagin, and you're so welcome to today's episode, which I call 'The Moment Of Truth!' I'm sure most of you are bursting with excitement to hear what your number one celebrity couple, Bryan and Sonia has to say. Well, me too. I'm a BrySon shipper after all," Alicia said with a small laugh before looking away from the camera to Bryan and Sonia who were seated opposite her.

"You both can say hello to your fans."

Bryan turned to look at Sonia, "You want to go first?" He asked with an easy smile, and she shook her head.

"You should go first," she said with a small smile, but Bryan could tell that she was nervous, so he reached for her hand and raised it to his lips before looking at the camera while still holding onto Sonia's hand.

He cleared his throat, "Hello! I'm Bryan Hank in case you don't know me. I'm not too arrogant to assume that everyone in the country knows me," Bryan said with a teasing smile, "I'm sure most of you are wondering why we chose a YouTube channel instead of holding a press conference as I used to do in the past. This time things are different, and I will love to interact directly with you, our supportive fans. Do well to drop your questions in the comment section. We will do our best to answer your questions sincerely to the best of our ability."

Sonia took in a deep breath, her heart beating fast now that it was her turn to speak. She turned to Bryan when he squeezed her palm softly, "I'm here. You have nothing to worry about," he assured her with a smile, and she gave him a nod before turning to the camera.

"Hello! I'm Sonia Smith! Thanks to everyone who has believed in us and is willing to hear our story with an open mind," Sonia said with a forced smile before relaxing in her seat.

"Before I delve into the most frequently asked questions by your fans which I and my team have been able to gather from the internet, I want to get something straight. Just yesterday we all saw a clip which circulated the internet of your fiancée, Sonia Smith returning the engagement ring you gave to her. We all assumed you were breaking up. How come you're both together right now? And I noticed you kissing her hand a moment ago, was it just a friendly kiss? Or is it safe to assume that the ship is still sailing?" Alicia asked with a hopeful smile.

"Shouldn't you be asking Sonia that question since she was the one who was caught in the camera returning the ring?" Bryan asked with an amused grin as he turned to Sonia who glared at him accusingly.

"I guess you're right. Sonia, do you mind telling us what that was about? I'm sure everyone is curious."

"You bastard!" She muttered under her breath, and Bryan chuckled, not caring that they were in front of the camera.

"There's not much to tell. Whoever captured the moment when I returned the ring to Bryan should have also captured the part where I was on the phone before then. When I heard the news going viral about my best friend, I needed to get to her as fast as I could, and I didn't want to drag Bryan into it since he knew nothing about it. I admit that I shouldn't have returned the ring at that moment,

but I did that because I was concerned about how my involvement in my best friend's case was going to affect Bryan and his career," Sonia explained.

"So you mean you did not break up with him because you were tired of the relationship? It was just because you were looking out for him?" Alicia asked for clarity, and Sonia nodded.

"You can ask him what I told him while giving back the ring," Sonia said, returning the attention to Bryan.

"Well, not that we expect you to believe us, but she said we could get back together after Lucy's case might have been resolved. She needed to be with her best friend, and although I wanted to go with her, she refused. She didn't want me to get involved," Bryan explained.

"So how come you're together now? And the case hasn't even been resolved yet?" Alicia asked curiously, and Bryan chuckled.

"She couldn't stay away from me. She came to find me," Bryan said, and Sonia hit his arm playfully.

"Who came to find whom?" She asked with a scoff, while Alicia smiled as she enjoyed the rapport between both of them.

"You can pretend all you want, I wasn't the one banging on Lucy's door," Bryan told Sonia with a grin while she scowled at him.

Bryan returned his attention to the camera, "What kind of a fiance would I be if I let her end things that way just to protect my career? She left to be with Lucy who is not just her best friend but her sister too, so I came here to be with them both and offer whatever support I can. I love Sonia and I'm not letting her go," Bryan assured the viewers, before turning to look at Sonia who was looking at him with a smile.

"I love you too," she murmured, and Bryan kissed the corner of her lips.

Jasmine, Lucy, and Tom who was watching the interview and also following the comments smiled as they read most of the comments.

'Awww, they're so cute. I don't think they're faking their relationship' one user commented.

'Wow! Ship BrySon forever! I love this couple?' another user commented.

'Awww, Bryan is so romantic. No wonder he's such a great actor' a female fan commented with many love emojis.

'If this is true, then what about the statement Bryan's agency released earlier today? Was that a lie?' Someone asked.

'And what about the story about their engagement being fake and Sonia being with Bryan for fame? I don't understand.'

'They're probably just doing this for the publicity. I don't trust these celebrities. They're just like politicians. Full of lies!'

'Bryan is sooooo cool! Sonia is very lucky!'

'My favs 4eva!'

'Sonia is such a wonderful friend. Best friend goals!!!'

'If they are telling the truth why is she still not wearing the ring?'

The more they scrolled through the comment section, they were relieved to see that there were more positive comments than negative comments.

"You heard them, guys! The BrySon ship is still very much sailing!" Alicia announced excitedly, "And congratulations to you both for coming back together. Your love for each other is so obvious, I don't know how anyone can doubt that," Alicia said as she looked at them.

"So, let's get down to the main issue. Following your supposed break-up yesterday, there has been an uproar all over social media, and there have been different rumors circulating the internet about the nature of your relationship with Sonia. While some of these articles say you were never really engaged to begin with, others say that Sonia emotionally blackmailed you into being in a relationship with her to advance her career. As a matter of fact, even your agency accused Sonia of using you to advance her career. Are you aware of that?"

Bryan exchanged a look with Sonia, and she gave him a nod to go ahead, "Yes, I'm aware of it."

"Then is it true? Is your relationship with Sonia real?" Alicia asked, looking at the couple curiously since she also was curious about the answer. Although she didn't doubt that they were in a relationship, she had the feeling that there was a story behind it.

Bryan took in a deep breath.. "Our relationship is real, but our engagement was a lie."

Chapter 249 - BrySon Interview (2)

For a moment Alicia forgot that it was a live interview and her jaws dropped in surprise before she quickly regained her composure and blinked at Bryan with a confused frown, "Your relationship is real but your engagement was fake?" She asked, looking from Bryan to Sonia whose faces were blank as they looked at her.

"Yes. You heard him right," Sonia responded this time.

"Does that mean that the speculation about you blackmailing him to propose to you is true?" Alicia asked, trying to get the facts right.

Bryan shook his head, "No. None of that is true. Before I go on, I will like to make something clear. I don't think my relationship is anyone's business. Most of you who seem to have a lot to say about my relationship, I know next to nothing about you or your relationship, so you should know that your opinion on my relationship doesn't really matter to me as an individual. However, the only reason I'm doing this is because as a public figure, I'm answerable to the public, and as such, I have to be honest with you. Golden stars entertainment agency released that article, criticizing Sonia only because they were concerned about how the rumors of our false engagement would affect my career." Bryan clarified.

"You're saying your agency lied against Sonia?"

"Sorry. I no longer work under that agency," Bryan cut in, surprising both Alicia and Sonia.

"What?" Alicia asked.

"I already asked my lawyer to terminate my contract with them. I can't entrust myself to an agency that only cares about my career and not about my emotional wellbeing. Paul lied against Sonia even when he knows the truth, and I can't accept that. Paul, I'm sure you're watching this. You can see that I made good my threat. We are done," Bryan said, looking directly into the camera as though he was looking at Paul.

"Wow!" Alicia exclaimed since she hadn't exactly expected Bryan to take things that far.

Sonia turned to Bryan with a frown since he hadn't discussed that with her first, but he gave her a reassuring smile, "Trust me, okay?" He mouthed to her, and she gave him a nod.

"I'm still confused about something. Or perhaps I should say we, as I'm sure I'm speaking on behalf of most of our viewers. How can your engagement be false when you say that your relationship is real? Can you tell us more about it? How did the both of you meet? Did Sonia approach you first?" Alicia asked, and Bryan turned to Sonia.

"Maybe she will explain better," he said, giving Sonia the go-ahead to tell them about their engagement.

Sonia gave a nod as she looked at the camera, and then at Alicia, "Well, as funny and as unbelievable as this might sound, we actually met each other for the first time the moment he knelt in front of me to propose to me," Sonia confessed.

"What?" Tom blurted out without thinking, and turned to look at Lucy in confusion, "I thought they are supposed to be telling the truth?"

"Which is what they're doing," Lucy said, without looking at him.

"You mean that is the truth? They met for the first time when he proposed to her?" Tom asked incredulously.

"Why do you sound so surprised? Didn't you know about it?" Lucy asked blinking at him innocently.

"Know about what? I thought they were being accused falsely and were just going to open up about how they met and all of that," Tom said with a frown. So he was the only one who was in the dark over this? He only just realized now that he had failed to ask Bryan what he meant by 'coming clean'. He was going to kill Bryan for deceiving him this whole time.

"Oh! Sorry. I assumed you already figured it out. Let's focus on the comments." Lucy said, and then returned her attention to the comment section to see the reaction of the fans.

'What????? OMG, I can't believe it!'

'Is this true??'

'How is that even possible?'

'This is craaaaaazy!'

'Byran proposed to a total stranger? Unbelievable!'

'This has got to be a movie script! Who knows? Maybe the reality show is still on and they're playing us.'

Alicia on the other hand was staring at both Bryan and Sonia in confusion, "You are joking, right?" They both shook their head.

"No. We are not. I was under a lot of pressure from my fellow actor, Sophia Riley, regarding our relationship scandal. I wasn't in a sexual relationship with her, but thanks to some incompetent journalist who published news about us being in a relationship without checking the facts, Sophia was having issues with her man and she needed me to clear the air. I needed something else to divert the attention and make her man believe her. So I decided to propose to a random stranger. If you work in the entertainment industry you'd know that the only way to cover up a scandal is by using a bigger scandal," Bryan explained.

"So you actually proposed to her just to cover up your scandal? And not because you were both head over heels in love? Not because she approached you and blackmailed you as we were made to believe?" Alicia asked for the benefit of the viewers.

"How could she have blackmailed me when we have never met before that day?" Bryan asked.

Alicia turned to Sonia, "But the engagement video... It didn't seem like it was the first time you both met. I mean, did you see the way you held him and kissed him," Alicia pointed out, and both Bryan and Sonia laughed.

"I've always had a crush on Bryan. I mean, I am I huuuuuge fan. I love seeing his movies and I've always imagined what kissing him would taste like. So you can't imagine the magnitude of surprise I felt while I was sitting there waiting for my editor to show up, and then Bryan Hank popped out of nowhere and knelt right there in front of me asking me to be his wife! I mean, this is Bryan Hank we are talking about. Fucking A-list actor Bryan Hank. At first, I thought it was either a prank or maybe I was just dreaming. But then I thought, fuck it! Even if it's a prank or a dream, I better seize this opportunity," Sonia said with a giggle, and both Bryan and Alicia laughed too.

"I was taken aback too. I was actually expecting her to reject me. So you can't imagine how shocked I was when she not only accepted my proposal but held on to me and kissed me. I thought she was crazy," Bryan revealed with a chuckle as he looked at Sonia fondly.

"You still think I'm crazy," Sonia murmured in amusement.

"Definitely. But I'm also crazy. Crazy about you."

"Awww. You both are so sweet. This sounds like something that would happen in a romance movie or a novel," Alicia said, and Sonia giggled some more.

"She's making it into a novel. You don't want to tell them about it?" Bryan asked Sonia.

"Yeah. I've been working on the story since the first time we met."

"Oh, wow! Save me the first copy! I will really love to read that book!" Alicia said with enthusiasm.

"The first copy is mine. You can have the second copy," Bryan offered with a grin.

"Gee! What a supportive fiance you are. Or should I just say, boyfriend? Since your fake engagement is technically off?" Alicia asked, and both couple laughed.

"Boyfriend is fine." They said in unison.

"So why didn't you call off the false engagement afterward? You were scared of public criticism? Or you both fell in love at first sight?" Alicia asked curiously, and Sonia flashed her a guilty smile as Bryan pointed at her.

"Sonia. She refused to end things, and she disappeared with the ring without leaving a trace," Bryan said, making Alicia burst into a peal of laughter.

"You're kidding me, right?" Alicia asked, looking at Sonia in amusement.

"What did you expect me to do? Would you have returned the ring and agreed to end things with him just like that? I guess that's why I was accused of emotionally blackmailing him," Sonia said with a grin.

"Now I get why Bryan said you're crazy. No offense," Alicia said with a giggle.

"None taken. But look at it this way, if I hadn't held on to the ring, we won't be together by now. Besides, do you know how many lies I told so many people who called me that day just to make them believe that we were truly engaged? How would I have looked at them afterward? How can you expect me to give back the ring without putting up a fight? You've got to be kidding me," Sonia said with a scoff.

"I'm glad you didn't give it back," Bryan said with a grin as he kissed her knuckles.

"You just realized it now? After all the stress you put me through?" She asked with a dramatic roll of her eyes.

"That should be my line," Bryan corrected.

Alicia kept grinning as she watched them both, "I would love to ask how your relationship blossomed from being fake couples to sweet lovers, but I wouldn't want to spoil Sonia's book," Alicia said, and Sonia gave her a thumbs up.

Alicia turned to the camera, "You heard them, guys. If this isn't a real romance story, I don't know what is. You have to agree with me that they make a great couple. You can keep dropping your questions and your comments, and we will attend to them after the short break. We will be right back!" Alicia said with a wink, and Jasmine turned off the camera immediately.

Anita who was lying face up in the beauty parlor with two round slices of cucumber covering her eyes, groaned when she heard the sound of her ringtone.

"I can't even get an hour's rest," she sighed as she removed the cucumbers and opened her eyes, before reaching for her handbag and taking out her phone.

She raised a brow when she saw the number displayed on the screen, before receiving the call, "Hi!" She greeted, wondering why the person was calling her.

"Are you watching the interview right now?" A male voice asked.

"What interview?" She asked curiously.

"What? You don't know that Bryan and Sonia are currently shooting a live interview?"

"They are?"

"Bryan and Sonia are currently doing a live interview, you know what this means, right?" He asked, and Anita stood up immediately.

"Who is interviewing them?" Anita asked as she took off the towel which was used to wrap her hair, and then she also took off the bathrobe which she was wearing.

"Is that even important right now? They just revealed that their engagement is fake! And their relationship is still very much intact!" He informed Anita.

"Really?" Anita asked with a slight frown. She hadn't expected them to do that. She had thought they would try to cover it up or something, especially considering the fact that they had ended their relationship. Who would have thought that the idiots would make up so soon?

"What about my brother? You are still going to keep to your end of the bargain even though we didn't get to use the evidence I provided anymore, right?" He asked hopefully.

Anita rolled her eyes, "The deal was on the ground that we use the evidence. Since we no longer have use for it, there is no deal."

"What? You can't do this to me after you made me leak the news to the press! Do you have any idea what would happen to me if they find out that I was behind this?" He asked furiously.

"They were going to find out after you release the evidence anyway. But since you are so worried about it, I guess you have to make sure that no one finds out that you were behind it." With that Anita hung up the call and started to dress up.

She didn't have the luxury of time to rest.. She had to come up with something else.

Chapter 250 - LuSon Interview (1)

"So? How did we do?" Sonia asked as she stood up and went to join Lucy and Tom.

"Great! The comments are mostly good," Lucy supplied as she shifted to the side to make room for Sonia who wanted to see the comments.

"What? Why are you staring at me that way?" Bryan asked when he noticed the scowl on Tom's face.

"You deceived me about your engagement!" Tom pointed out, not bothering to hide his displeasure at finding out about his brother's relationship at the same time as everyone else.

"Did I? If I remember correctly I said I would tell you all about it when we go for our family vacation. How is that the same as telling a lie?" Bryan asked incredulously.

"You could have easily said it's not a real relationship!"

"What difference would that information have made? Besides, how is this any different from you keeping away the details of your first meeting with Lucy from me?" Bryan fired back.

"What details?" Lucy who had been going through the comments with Sonia, asked as she looked from Bryan to Tom.

"I'm wondering the same thing. What details?" Tom asked with a frown.

"Like her passing the night with you. You left that part out when you told me about her the first time. I'm sure you didn't tell Jade of it either," Bryan said accusingly.

"Was I supposed to give you such information? Besides, where did you hear of it?" Tom asked, looking at Lucy, who in turn turned to look at Sonia.

Noticing the sudden silence, Sonia raised her head to look at them, and frowned when she noticed that both Tom and Lucy were staring at her, "What?" She asked in confusion.

"You told Bryan about my first night with Tom?" Lucy asked with a frown.

"Why would I tell him that?" Sonia asked with a frown, as she looked at Bryan, "Did you tell them I told you that?" She asked him curiously.

"Wow! These people are even more interesting than you said," Jasmine whispered to Alicia as they watched the couples who seemed to have forgotten that they weren't alone in the house.

"The night of our engagement? Weren't you on the phone with Lucy advising her to make her neighbor who also happens to be called Tom, her personal handyman?" Bryan asked in amusement, and Sonia's jaw dropped in surprise, while Lucy's face flushed with embarrassment.

"You remember that?" Sonia asked in surprise, trying to recall all she must have said that night.

"Do I look like someone with a bad memory? I can recount every line of your side of the conversation. Do you want me to say it all?" Bryan asked with a smug smile, and both Lucy and Sonia shook their heads vigorously, making Bryan chuckle.

"I want to hear it," Tom said, but Sonia quickly went to where Bryan was standing and placed her hand over his shoulder.

"There is really nothing to hear, Tom. I was under the influence of something," Sonia said with an embarrassed smile, and both Lucy and Bryan chuckled.

"That doesn't explain how you found out that Lucy passed the night with me at my house," Tom pointed out.

"Wait, I thought she said they met at the club? Did she mention passing the night with him?" Alicia asked Jasmine with a slight frown as she tried to remember what Lucy had told them that night during dinner.

"She didn't say anything about passing the night with him," Jasmine said confidently.

"Sonia asked about your mansion. So I connected the dots when I found out you were the Tom that they were gossiping about."

"Let's look at the bright side, at least now we all know that you don't kiss and tell. Right, Lucy?" Sonia asked, looking at Tom with a placatory smile.

"Right!" Lucy said, flashing Tom a smile.

Alicia cleared her throat to get their attention, "Sorry to interrupt your family discussion. But I'm curious, you mean you both met both brothers separately? Like you best friends dating two brothers is purely coincidental?" Alicia asked, and they all smiled.

"I prefer to call it fate, not coincidence," Sonia said with a wide smile.

"I think it's time to resume the show. You've spent almost ten minutes now," Jasmine reminded them.

"Yeah. Let's do that so that we can move on to the next aspect of the show," Alicia said as she returned to the set, while Sonia quickly picked up a bottle of water from the dining table and drank from it, before passing the bottle to Bryan who also drank from it before they returned to the set.

Once the show resumed, Alicia read out the most relevant comments and questions from their fans, while both Bryan and Sonia did their best to answer most of the questions.

"So the final question here for the couple before we move to the next segment of this interview, 'Between the both of you, who fell first for the other?'" Alicia read the question with a giggle, as she looked at both Bryan and Sonia who were laughing.

"I think I did," both Bryan and Sonia said in unison, and then they turned to each other and started laughing.

"Let's see. When did you find out that you were falling for me?" Sonia asked Bryan curiously.

"I don't know. Maybe it was the night you were dancing nak..."

"Shut up!" Sonia yelled in embarrassment before he could complete his statement, and Bryan laughed out loud.

"I think Bryan fell first," Sonia conceded.

"That was quite an interesting and eye-opening conversation," Alicia said with a smile that didn't quite reach her eyes anymore since she knew that the next segment wasn't a pleasant one.

"Moving on, because Bryan and Sonia are here for Lucy's sake, I will be inviting Lucy to join them on the set right now. Miss Lucinda Perry, you can join us," Alicia called to Lucy.

Hearing her name, Lucy's heart skipped a beat as she turned to look at Alicia.

"It's okay. You can do it," Tom assured her quietly as he placed a hand on her back and patted her.

"Don't think about it, just do it," he said encouragingly.

Taking in a deep breath, Lucy slowly walked over to the set, and Bryan scooted to the side for Lucy to sit down between himself and Sonia. As though it was planned, both Sonia and Bryan took each of Lucy's hands to calm her.

"You're welcome to the show, Lucy," Alicia said with a small smile, and Lucy nodded.

"I'm sure within the last twenty-four hours, most of you must have heard about her and even judged her without knowing what she looks like. This lady here is Lucinda Perry, the lady being accused of such a heinous crime as murder," Alicia said with a disapproving expression.

"Can you both tell us a little about your friendship? How long you have both been best friends?" Alicia asked, hoping that the question would calm Lucy a bit and prepare her for the difficult conversation ahead.

Taking the cue from Alicia, Sonia turned to Lucy, "It's been fifteen years, right?" She asked with a smile, and Lucy nodded.

"Do you remember how we became friends?" Sonia asked with a grin.

"Of course," Lucy said with a giggle as she recalled their first meeting.

"After my mother got remarried, we moved down to Heden where I met Lu for the first time. I was in a really foul mood at the time. First I was still mourning my dad, secondly, my mother got remarried to her high school sweetheart before I got enough time to accept my dad's death. Not leaving out the fact that I automatically got an older brother who seemed to really hate my existence, and I was also being forced to repeat grade 5. It was pretty much the worst year of my life. So I was determined to be rebellious and to cause a lot of trouble. Lucy on the other hand was the model student," Sonia said with a grin and turned to look at Lucy for her to continue.

"When she was brought into the classroom on her first day, she was assigned the desk behind mine. While the teacher would be teaching, Sonia would kick my seat, and make all sorts of animal sounds for God knows why. I would often turn to glare at her, but she wasn't fazed by that. It was as if she was daring me to report her to the class teacher. When I couldn't take it anymore I reported her to my twin brother a week later and he offered to swap seats with me since his seat was directly behind hers. So once I took the seat behind hers, I started kicking her seat and making similar animal sounds. Mine was a little bit louder than hers, so when the teacher asked who was making those sounds, Lucas pointed at Sonia," Lucy said with a grin, and Sonia giggled.

"I tried to convince the teacher that it was Lucy and not me, but no one would listen to me because Lucy was the model student and I on the other hand was the troublesome new student. Much to my embarrassment, I was made to stand in front of the class and make those animal sounds while mimicking each of the animals. Luckily for me, Lucy is a softie who didn't want me to be punished alone for her crime, so she came out and joined me in the demonstration," Sonia said with a grin.

"And afterward she promised not to kick my seat or do anything silly," Lucy added.

"But our friendship still didn't start from there. Some of the kids she didn't get along with locked her in a toilet stall after school, and she couldn't get out. Lucas and I were about to leave when we noticed that her bag was still in the classroom, so we searched around the classroom premises for her until we found her," Lucy said with a wide smile.

"And the three of us became inseparable. Thanks to them I began to love school and be on my best behavior, and their home became my second home," Sonia said with a wide smile as they both remembered the time before Rachel came into the picture.

"Wow! That's quite a history," Alicia said as she watched Lucy smile. She could tell that the story had relaxed her a bit, so it was time to slowly ease into the subject.

"Sonia, earlier you mentioned something about having a half-brother who hated your existence, Is he the same person as the college student who was supposedly murdered by your best friend?"