

Wild Night 761

Chapter 761 Goodbye

Although Cassidy was feeling exhausted, and his eyelids were heavy with sleep, he willed himself to stay awake so he could watch Andy, who was now sleeping peacefully beside him after their very passionate sex.

He didn't want to take his eyes off her. Not even for a second. Not when he knew that this was most likely going to be the last time she would ever sleep beside him like this.

As a matter of fact, despite the fact that they had sex and she was still lying beside him, he was still very shocked that she had asked him to pleasure her.

A smile twitched on his lips as he thought about all she had said and done earlier just to convince him to have sex with her. Thinking about it now, it was sort of funny.

Even though a part of him wanted a lot more from her than just sex, and what he wished was to watch her sleep like this every day, he knew better than to say that to her.

He knew that even though she claimed to have forgiven him, he would be a constant reminder of her painful past if he so much as tried to cling to her.

She was better off without him, and it was better he stayed off her path so that she could fully heal and move on from her past, Cassidy thought with a sigh, and decided that instead of watching her sleep and torturing himself further with his painful longing, he should let her go.

"Andy," Cassidy called softly as he rubbed her arm so she could wake up.

Andy murmured in her sleep as she snuggled closer to him and buried her face in his chest.

Cassidy couldn't hold back himself as he leaned forward and kissed her forehead, and he decided to let her sleep for a bit before waking her up again.

He cuddled her and buried his nose in her hair. He wanted to cherish this moment. He wanted to remember how it felt to hold her in his arms, how she smelt, how she tasted...

"Alex?" Andy asked in confusion since the room was dark.

He quickly let go of her and got off the bed, "I'm sorry I disturbed your sleep," Cassidy said apologetically, and she sat up to look at him, not minding the fact that she was completely naked.

She had woken up because she had felt him cuddling her. She had felt his tender kiss on her forehead and had heard his rapid heartbeat. She just couldn't understand him.

"It's okay. Why are you still up?" Andy asked with a yawn as Cassidy went to stand by the window with his back to her.

"You should return to your bedroom," Cassidy said, feeling uncomfortable with the sight of her naked body on his bed now that she was awake. It made him want to make love to her again.

Andy raised a brow, "Why? You can't sleep because I'm here? Don't tell me you are scared that I might murder you in your sleep?" Andy said, and Cassidy's lips twitched in amusement.

It was true that he couldn't sleep because she was there. As much as he loved to watch her sleep, it was making his acceptance of the fact that she was leaving harder than it already was.

It was funny that she would think that someone like him would be scared of her. It wasn't like she could leave here alive even if she succeeded in killing him anyway.

"Yes. I'm scared you came in here to take your revenge and might murder me in my sleep," Cassidy said with a nod.

"You really do have trust issues. Have you always been deceived your whole life? Trust me when I say I've forgiven you. I don't have any intentions of killing you," Andy assured him.

"Thanks. Now I can sleep easy," Cassidy said with a scoff, and she narrowed her eyes.

"Are you being sarcastic?" She asked, and he sighed.

"Go sleep in your own bed, Andy," Cassidy said, and she raised a brow.

"Will you be there to see me off when I leave?" Andy asked curiously, and Cassidy shook his head.

"No," Cassidy said, and Andy frowned.

"Why not? Why won't you see me off? And why do you keep avoiding me when I'm the one offering my friendship?" She asked in confusion.

"Do you really want to know?" Cassidy asked, and she nodded.

"I wouldn't be asking if I didn't want an honest response."

"I'm avoiding you because I don't have to go back on my word of letting you leave," Cassidy said, still without looking back at her, and Andy raised a brow.

"How?" She asked, and Cassidy turned to look at her.

"I don't want you to leave, but since you insist that you must leave, I can't hold you back. It's one thing to let you go. It's another to watch you go. I'm afraid that I might disregard my promise to you and go on my knees to beg you not to leave if I'm there to see you off. The only way I can truly let you go is if I'm not there to watch you leave. Does that answer your question?" Cassidy asked Andy, who was staring at him while feeling both surprised and confused by his confession.

Andy gave him a nod since she was too speechless to utter a word.

Cassidy watched her as she rose from the bed and picked up her sleeping gown, which she had worn earlier.

"You should be ready to leave by 8 A.M.," Cassidy said, and she nodded.

"Thanks for not forcing me to stay against my will," She said, and Cassidy gave her a nod and watched as she headed for the interconnecting door.

As she opened the door, she turned to him, "Alex?"

"Yes?"

"I wish we had met under different circumstances. I hope you'll come say goodbye to me when I leave," Andy said hopefully.

"Goodbye, Andy. I hope you find all the happiness you deserve."

"I hope so for you, too," She said before walking through the door and shutting it behind her.

As she showered, she tried to imagine how things would have been had she met Cassidy under different circumstances. For a moment there, she had thought about what it would be like to stay there with him, but she couldn't.

That wasn't the kind of life she wanted for herself. She didn't want to live in seclusion away from the people who mattered most to her in life.

Thinking about Candace and Jamal now, she smiled as she thought about meeting them again. She wondered how soon before she could see them again. Where was Cassidy sending her? Would it be somewhere close to Candace and Jamal? Or far away?

She wondered if Candace missed her as much as she had missed her or if she had forgotten all about her now because she now had her biological family. A family which was far more prestigious, unlike her stripper adoptive sister.

Andy shook her head. No, that wasn't true. If she thought Candace was that sort of person, she wouldn't even be thinking of going back to her and Jamal. She knew that Candace and Jamal loved her almost as much as she loved them, and she knew they would be happy to have her back. However, she couldn't be so sure about Candace's family. It was one thing for them to accept Candace since she was theirs. But would they want Candace to remain family with her?

Andy scowled at that. They had better be ready to accept her as well, or else she was going to take Candace and Jamal from them. They were all a package, and it was a buy two and get one free package.

Andy sighed as she got on her bed, but she couldn't sleep. How could she when her freedom was so close? She looked around her bedroom, and her gaze paused at the interconnecting door, and she remembered what Cassidy had said again about the reason he didn't want to see her off.

He had sounded like a man in love. She shook her head to get rid of the thought. She needed to sleep now so she could wake up early to leave.

She closed her eyes to sleep but only turned and tossed for hours until it was morning, and she quickly showered and dressed up before going to find Maribel since she needed to bid the kid farewell.

Andy walked into the living room to see Maribel crying in Susan's embrace, and the moment Maribel saw Andy, she ran to her, and Andy knelt on one knee to embrace her.

"Don't leave me, please," Maribel cried as she held on tightly to Andy.

She had wanted to go to Andy's room to beg her not to go, but Susan had stopped her from doing that. Cassidy had informed them that morning that Andy would be leaving.

Andy caressed Maribel's hair and pulled away to look at her. "I'm sorry, doll, but I have to go home," Andy said with a sad smile as she brushed away the tears from Maribel's face.

"I don't want you to leave. Please stay here with us. I promise to be good to you if you stay. Daddy will be good to you, too. Susan will also be good, right Susan?" Maribel pleaded as she continued to weep, and Andy embraced her again as she tried to calm her.

As Andy tried to calm Maribel, Susan, who was standing a few feet away, couldn't help but feel sad as she watched the scene before her.

Although she had not liked Andy when she first got there because because of how disrespectful she was to Alex, she had to admit that she had been good to Maribel and her presence in the house had made a difference in the kid.

They all turned to the door when one of Cassidy's men walked in, and Andy knew it was time for her to leave.

"I've been assigned to escort you," the man informed Andy, and she turned to Maribel.

"I have to go now, doll," Andy said, and Maribel cried even more.

"If you keep crying this way, I won't visit you ever again," Andy said, and Maribel quickly wiped get eyes.

"You will visit me?" She asked hopefully, and Andy pretended to think about it.

"I might if you promise to be a good girl and to not cry," Andy said with a soft smile, and Maribel sniffled.

"I promise to be a good girl."

"That's good."

"Will you be my mommy when you come to visit again?" Maribel asked hopefully, and Andy looked at her in surprise.

"Why?"

"Because if you become my mommy, you wouldn't want to leave me again," Maribel said, and Andy glanced up at Susan before returning her gaze to Maribel.

"I see. I suppose we will see what the future holds for us all," Andy said as she kissed Maribel's forehead before rising to leave.

She couldn't tell the kid that there was a possibility that they weren't going to see or meet ever again.

Although Maribel wanted to cry some more, she held herself from crying because of what Andy had said about not crying.

As Andy followed the man out of the house, she looked around to see if Cassidy was somewhere around, but she didn't see any sign of him.

"You're not carrying any bags?" Her escort asked, and she shook her head.

"No. I have nothing to take with me. I came here with nothing," Andy said quietly as she walked with him.

Neither Andy nor the man said another word as they continued moving. As they walked, Andy kept looking around, and she tried to walk slowly so that they wouldn't get there too soon. She wanted Cassidy to be able to meet them if he changed his mind about seeing her off.

"Where is Alex?" Andy asked the man, who had been leading her in silence, as they approached the jet, and she still didn't see him waiting by the jet.

"He is busy with work and asked me to say goodbye to you on his behalf," he said, and Andy sighed deeply when it dawned on her that he really wasn't coming.

She looked around one more time and when she didn't see any sign of him she got into the jet.

Cassidy, who was watching her from a safe distance, sighed when she disappeared inside the jet, and he dropped his binoculars.

He knew she must be feeling pretty disappointed that he didn't show up, but it was better for everyone this way.

"Goodbye, Andy," Cassidy murmured as he headed back to the house to console his heartbroken daughter.

Chapter 762 Christmas Plans

On Tuesday morning, the Hank family and their visitors gathered together for breakfast as usual.

"I guess the next time we will be gathering this way again with everyone in attendance will be at the wedding," Evelyn said as they all ate, and both Bryan and Sonia smiled.

"Yes. And after that, we will all be gathered again for the Christmas party at Tom's place and then the family vacation," Sonia said with a bright smile.

"Yeah. That's right. I hope that everything will settle down now and there won't be any more dramas," Evelyn said, and they all nodded.

After breakfast, as they all left for their various rooms to prepare for their trips to their various destinations, Harry and Candace followed Aaron and Jamal to their bedroom.

"Why are you both following me?" Aaron asked as they walked together.

"I want to talk to you," they both said in unison and then scowled at each other.

"You both just said the same thing," Jamal pointed out in excitement.

"Yeah, we did. And that's because your mom is a copycat," Harry said, and before Candace could fire back at him, Aaron cut in.

"Are you both here to fight, or do you want to talk to me?" Aaron asked, and Candace scowled at Harry, who stuck his tongue out at her.

"So childish," Candace muttered with a shake of her head, and as though realizing what he was doing, he shut his mouth and scowled back at her since she seemed to be so talented in making him do childish stuff.

"Can I go meet Lucy?" Jamal asked, not interested in what was going on there since he knew he had little time left to be with Lucy.

"Sure," Aaron said, and Jamal ran off.

"So?" Aaron asked as they walked into the bedroom.

"I'm here to talk. I don't know about your immature son," Candace said, and Aaron shook his head.

"So, what do you want to talk about? Do either of you need privacy to speak?" Aaron asked since it was possible that either of them wouldn't want the other to know what they wanted to talk about.

Candace and Harry glanced at each other before shaking their heads, and because Harry was curious to know whatever Candace wanted to say, he gestured for her to go ahead, "Ladies first."

"Matt wants to come with us. I hope you don't mind. He wants to know where I will be living now," Candace explained, and both Harry and their father exchanged a look.

"That is very thoughtful of him," Aaron said, and Harry nodded.

"Jade will be coming with us as well," Harry announced, and Candace raised a brow.

"Are you coming with us?" She asked since Harry had not mentioned that to her before.

"Yes," Harry said simply without giving any further explanation.

"Don't tell me you miss me so much already that you decided to follow us," Candace said with a teasing smile.

"If that's all you both have to tell me, I suggest you take your bickering outside. I have to get ready to leave. You both should get ready too," Aaron said with dismissal, and they both exchanged a look before walking out of the room.

"Why does he seem so irritable?" Candace asked as she looked back at the door, which was now closed.

"I don't know. Maybe it has something to do with Sara's arrest," Harry said, and Candace scowled as they both headed for the stairs.

"I hope not. I see no reason he should be feeling upset because she got what she deserved," Candace said, and Harry nodded in agreement.

"Do you have a moment to talk?" Harry asked, and Candace raised a questioning brow.

"What have we been doing? Running?" She asked dryly, and Harry chuckled.

"Well, about the interview we were supposed to do after Sara's arrest...."

"Sara has been arrested now. Do you want us to do it now before I return to Sogal?" She asked, and Harry shook his head.

"No. I was thinking we should do it when you come for Bryan's wedding, and after that, you and I can go visit your mother in prison," Harry said with a mischievous grin, and Candace nodded.

"Is there a reason I have to show my face to your mother? I mean, wouldn't it be better if she never saw me? I'd rather she keeps wondering if I'm alive or not and be tormented by the thought. Don't you think so?" Candace asked, returning the favor, and Harry raised a brow.

"You don't want to meet her?" Harry asked with concern, and Candace sighed.

"On second thoughts, I think I should go see her. I'm sure she will be even more miserable knowing you and Dad got to me first," Candace said with a malicious smile, and Harry nodded.

"I'm sure by now she knows that we sent Crystal to her. Let's hope she doesn't commit suicide when she finds out her lawyer has listed you as the sole beneficiary to all that she owns," Harry said, and Candace frowned.

"What are you talking about?" Candace asked, and Harry shrugged.

"Since she wanted her daughter's name on her fake Will, I asked him to put your name on the legitimate Will. Don't you think you deserve some compensation for what she did to you? She sold you to get all she has now, so it's only right that everything she owns belongs to you. We also spoke

about the inheritance your late adoptive parents left you, which Wilson stole from you. It is all being transferred back to you legally," Harry said, and Candace shook her head as tears gathered in her eyes.

"I don't need it. What am I going to do with all of that?" She asked, and Harry smiled.

"I'm sure you will figure out what to do. Besides, I want you to be wealthier than your baby boyfriend if you're going to be his sugar momma," Harry said and chuckled as he walked away before Candace could respond.

Away from there, Tom watched as Lucy and Jamal chattered while Lucy organized their luggage.

Even though he was looking at them, his thoughts were far from there. He was thinking about the conversation he planned to have with Sonia.

He didn't want to wait until Sonia and Bryan returned to Ludus before speaking with her. He wanted to know where he stood and to be sure he wasn't mistaken about what he had heard that night.

"What are you thinking about?" Lucy asked since he had been unusually quiet since they returned to the bedroom after breakfast.

"A couple of things. Please excuse me. I need to take care of something," Tom said as he rose from the bed.

"I hope there is no problem?" Lucy asked, and he flashed her a smile.

"Not at all," He assured her before stepping out.

He stopped by Bryan's bedroom and knocked on the door. It didn't take long before Sonia answered the door.

"Is Bryan in?" Tom asked as he looked ahead of Sonia into the room, and Sonia shook her head.

"No. He is downstairs with Matt," Sonia said, and he nodded.

"Can I talk to you for a moment?" Tom said, and Sonia looked at him with interest.

"Me? Is everything okay? Did Lucy cause any trouble again?" Sonia asked as she wondered if he had fought with Lucy.

"Again? Why do you sound like she is always causing trouble?" He asked with a frown, not liking Sonia's question.

Sonia smiled, "I guess everything is fine. You can talk to me," Sonia said as she walked out of the room and shut the door behind her.

"Let's go to the patio," Tom suggested since he doubted that anyone would be there, and Sonia followed him.

"I'm curious to know what you want to talk about. It's about Lucy, isn't it?" Sonia asked as they descended the stairs, and Tom nodded.

"Yes. But it's not because she did anything wrong," He said in Lucy's defense, and Sonia raised a brow.

"Is there something you want me to talk to her about? Or you want to know something about her?" Sonia asked since she couldn't think of anything else Tom would want to talk about.

"Yeah," Tom said, and Sonia frowned, not sure which he wanted.

Seeing that Tom wasn't in a hurry to speak yet, she quietly followed him until they got to the patio and were seated.

"Lucy has been acting a bit differently of late," Tom started, and Sonia raised a brow.

"Different? What do you mean? Is it good different or bad different?" Sonia asked in puzzlement.

"Not bad, different. It's good. Very good, actually. But her recent behavior is giving me reasons to believe she is changing her mind about marrying me and having kids. I want to know if I am right. You are her best friend, so I'm very sure you would know if she had changed her mind. Am I wrong?" Tom asked, and Sonia shook her head.

"I am not sure. We haven't had that conversation, so I wouldn't know. But..."

"Please, Sonia. Don't play dumb with me. This is important to me. I told you so before now. And before you think of denying anything, I overheard your conversation with her the other night in my bedroom," Tom said, and Sonia raised a brow.

"What exactly did you hear?"

"I heard what you said about her becoming more open to the idea of marriage. And what she said about not saying anything to me until she was done with therapy," Tom said, and Sonia pressed her lips together.

So, Lucy's secret wasn't really a secret after all, she thought with a sigh.

"If you overheard our conversation, and her recent behavior is also making you think that way, why are you asking me for confirmation?"

"I want to be sure I'm not giving myself false hope. And I also need your advice to know how best to proceed," Tom said easily.

Sonia sighed as she thought about it. Tom was her best friend's man and her soon-to-be brother-in-law, so telling him what he wanted to know wouldn't be like she was snitching on Lucy.

After all, Tom had overheard them himself. That wasn't her fault. It wasn't like what she was going to say would hurt anyone, either. If anything, it would make Tom happy. And a happy Tom equaled a happy Lucy, even though Lucy wouldn't know the exact reason for Tom's happiness.

"Please, Sonia," Tom said when Sonia remained quiet as though she was contemplating her response.

"You heard right," Sonia said simply, and Tom beamed a happy smile.

"Really?" He asked, and Sonia smiled back as she bobbed her head.

"Yeah."

"Is she really going to wait until after her therapy to tell me about it?" Tom asked, and Sonia shrugged.

"I guess she wants to be entirely certain before saying anything to you," Sonia said since she didn't have any intention of telling Tom about Lucy's Christmas surprise for him.

"What changed her mind? I guess it's the therapy? I suppose the therapist is doing a good job. I should give her more incentives," Tom said excitedly, and Sonia giggled.

"I don't think it totally has to do with the therapist. According to her, her therapist is good. But I think it is mostly because she loves you and is becoming less scared of the idea of spending the rest of her life with you," Sonia said, and Tom smiled.

"Thanks, Sonia. I have a favor to ask. Do you think you can convince her to tell me about it sooner? I thought I could stay quiet and wait until she was ready to talk to me about it, but I'm not so sure I can. I feel like if I keep this to myself much longer, I'm going to burst," Tom said, and Sonia giggled.

"What's the difference? Whether she tells you or not, you already know how she feels now," Sonia pointed out.

"Well, it's different. The moment she tells me how she feels, our relationship can go to the next level. Perhaps I should propose to her? Do you think she will accept my proposal?" Tom asked thoughtfully.

"Proposal?" Sonia asked, and Tom nodded.

"Even if we won't get married immediately, I would love her to be more to me than just my girlfriend. I want to see my ring on her finger at the very least," Tom said, and Sonia tried to hide her amusement.

It was funny that Tom was eager to propose to Lucy, who was also planning to propose to Tom. Maybe she could get him to propose during the Christmas party, too. That would be fun to watch.

The more she thought about it, the more she liked the idea. She couldn't wait to see who would be the first to propose since one of them was going to have to beat the other and propose first.

While a part of her hoped it would be Lucy so that Tom would be pleasantly surprised, she also hoped it would be Tom so that Lucy wouldn't deny him the joy of proposing to her, and so that Lucy would also experience the joy of being proposed to by her man.

"Well, if you ask me, I think you should propose to her," Sonia suggested, and Tom smiled.

"Really? You think so?" He asked, and she gave him a nod.

"Yes. You know what I think? The Christmas party would be the perfect time and place for it. Everyone would be there, and it would be a party she organized herself," Sonia said, and Tom grinned, liking the idea.

"I think it is a brilliant idea," Tom said happily and then paused.

"But do you think she will accept my proposal? What if she gets upset that I ignored her wish and did something like that? What if she turns me down?" Tom asked uncertainly, and Sonia smiled.

"Trust me, Tom. She is going to accept your proposal happily," Sonia said confidently.

"Thank you, Sonia. You don't know how happy you just made me," Tom said, and Sonia waved it off.

"You shouldn't thank me for that. It's nothing."

"I hope you don't mind helping me with the plans," Tom asked, and Sonia grinned.

"I would love nothing more than to help in any way I can. You have no idea how long I've been waiting to see Lucy take this step," She said with a smile, and Tom nodded happily.

"Can I trust you to keep this to yourself? I don't want anyone else to know of this. Not even Bryan," Tom said, and Sonia made a zipping gesture on her lips as they both rose to return inside.

Sonia had a mischievous smile on her face as she returned to her bedroom. Christmas was going to be so much fun. She couldn't wait.

Chapter 763 Just A Little

As Tom headed for the stairs, his phone started ringing, and just as he was about to receive Harry's call, he saw Harry coming from the opposite direction.

"Where were you? I've been searching all over for you," Harry said, and Tom grinned.

"Were you missing me?" Tom asked, and Harry chuckled.

"Yes. I wanted to have my fill of your face and presence before we all leave," Harry said, and Tom chuckled.

"Let's go talk at the bar. I have good news to share," Tom said, and Harry raised a brow as they headed for the bar.

"What good news?" Harry asked, and Tom placed his arm around Harry's shoulder.

"Patience, Harry. Patience. By the way, we need to celebrate Sara's arrest," Tom said as they walked into the bar.

"Yeah. I'm glad that is out of the way now," Harry said as he watched Tom pour champagne into two glasses.

"So, what is the good news?" Harry asked as he took one of the glasses from Tom.

"Let's make a toast first. To defeating our enemies," Tom said as he raised his glass, and Harry clinked glasses with him.

"To defeating our enemies," Harry repeated.

"You know, I was thinking of something," Tom said, and Harry raised a brow.

"What?"

"Why don't we arrange for Rebekah Miller and Sara to be roommates in prison? I don't want them to be bored. They should at least be able to have fun talking about how we ruined their lives," Tom said with a wink, and Harry chuckled.

"Or they will have fun plotting a revenge. Either way, I'm not interested in them. What is the good news?" Harry asked curiously.

"Take a guess," Tom said, and Harry narrowed his eyes.

"Lucy is pregnant?" Harry guessed since he could see the gleam in Tom's eyes, and he knew only something that had to do with Lucy could put that light in his eyes.

"No, she isn't. Not yet. But she will be by the time this is all over," Tom announced happily, and Harry looked at him in confusion.

"What do you mean?" He asked, wondering if Lucy had said or done something to give her plans away.

"Lucy has truly changed her mind about getting married to me. I confirmed it."

"Really? How? Did you ask her?"

Tom shook his head as he took a sip from his glass. "No. I asked Sonia, and she confirmed it," Tom said happily, and Harry smiled.

He had always thought Sonia wasn't very good at keeping secrets, and now he was very glad he didn't include her in his plan to propose to Jade.

"Wow! I'm so happy for you, man. So what are you going to do? Ask Lucy or wait it out until she decides to tell you herself?" Harry asked, trying his best to look happy as though it was his first time hearing about it.

"I plan to propose to her during the Christmas party," Tom said, and this time, Harry didn't need to pretend to be shocked.

"What? Why? What if she turns you down? I mean, shouldn't you like have a conversation with her first to know if she will accept your proposal or not?" Harry asked, wondering what Tom was thinking.

"Why? Do you think it is a bad idea? Sonia thinks it's a good idea. She actually suggested I do it at the Christmas party," Tom said, and Harry frowned, wondering what Sonia was thinking when she knew fully well what Lucy planned to do.

"Sonia suggested that?" Harry asked, and Tom nodded.

"Only after I suggested that I propose to her, though. She said the Christmas party would be the perfect time to do so," Tom said, and Harry chuckled at the incredulity of it all.

Sonia was aware of Lucy's plan, yet she was encouraging Tom. He couldn't help but wonder what she was thinking and plotting. He wondered if she was going to inform Lucy of Tom's plan. He hoped not.

"So? What do you think?" Tom asked, and Harry shook his head.

"I'm not sure yet. I wouldn't want you to make any mistakes," Harry said, and Tom nodded.

"You can speak with Lucy. You know, try to confirm her change of heart and also indirectly prepare her mind for my proposal," Tom suggested.

"I'm not promising you anything, but I will see what I can do," Harry said, and Tom nodded as he raised his glass to his lips.

"That's good enough. I should go back in to join my future fiancée," Tom said with a grin as he drank the remaining content of his glass.

Harry shook his head and chuckled before doing the same to his drink so they could leave.

"Don't miss me too much in Ludus," Harry said as they both headed for the stairs.

"I will miss you with every passing second. Don't be in haste to come back, though. I will handle things," Tom said, and Harry smiled.

"I hope you don't run down the company before I get back," Harry joked, and Tom chuckled as he walked into his bedroom while Harry continued to Jade's room.

An hour later, Tom and Lucy bid the others goodbye and got on the jet to return home to Ludus.

"So, it's just the both of us now," Lucy said with a happy smile, and Tom grinned.

"Yeah. It's just the both of us."

"You know, it's our first time traveling together alone this way. Why don't we do something special?" Lucy suggested.

"I agree. I was going to suggest that we divert to somewhere beautiful for a quick date before we go home. What do you think?" Tom suggested, and Lucy grinned.

"That is a wonderful idea. Being alone with you like this is already giving me a date kinda vibe. Let's go on a date," Lucy said, and Tom grinned since he had planned for it already from the moment he realized they were driving alone.

He wasn't the kind of man to miss opportunities like these when they were presented to him on a platter.

"So, where will we be going?" Lucy asked excitedly.

"Why don't you wait and see," Tom said, and she grinned.

"How many people are on this jet with us?" Lucy asked curiously.

"Three. Why?"

"Do you think any of them will be coming this way soon?" Lucy asked, and he raised a brow.

"Why? Do you want something?" He asked, and she smiled suggestively.

"I was wondering what it would be like to make love in the air," she said, and Tom threw his head back and laughed.

"What did you do to my sweet, innocent Lucy?" Tom asked teasingly, and she giggled.

"You should be asking yourself that. Not me. So? Are you in or not?" She asked, and Tom grinned.

"Can I ever say no to you? I should probably ask them to give us privacy. We don't want any of them catching us pants down," Tom said, and Lucy giggled.

"No one will catch me with my pants down since I'm not wearing one. Why do you think I chose to wear a gown?" She asked with a wink, and Tom looked at her in surprise for a moment before chuckling.

"You are so naughty and spoilt, Lucinda Perry. And I love it," Tom said as he held out a hand to her, and once she took it, he pulled her onto his lap to have his way with her.

As Tom made love to her, Lucy moaned so loudly that no one needed to walk in on them to know what they were doing.

"You have given the crew members something to talk about," Tom said with a grin when they were done, and Lucy slapped his arm.

"And whose fault is that? Couldn't you shut my mouth or something when you know how I can be?" Lucy asked with a scowl, and Tom chuckled.

"I like how you can be. I don't care about anyone else," Tom assured her.

"Yeah. Easy for you to say since they will all be talking about your sexual prowess and how I kept screaming like a fox in heat," Lucy said grudgingly, and Tom laughed softly.

"So, are you saying you approve of my sexual prowess?" He asked playfully, and Lucy shook her head in amusement.

"That's all you heard me say? Men," she said as she looked out of the window while Tom grinned as he watched her.

A few hours later, the pilot announced that they were at their destination and advised that they prepare for landing.

"Where are we?" Lucy asked as she looked outside the window.

"Take a wild guess," he said, and she shook her head when she couldn't figure it out from the height.

After they got out of the jet, she looked around the place and Tom watched her with a grin on his face as her eyes widened slightly in surprise when she realized where they had landed, and then she broke into a peal of laughter.

"This brings back a nice memory, huh?" Tom asked with a teasing smile, and she laughed even more.

He had brought her to the mountain side where he had brought her long ago before she knew his identity

Then he had said he planned to build a resort there, and judging by the buildings she could see around, she could tell things were going very much according to his plan even though they had not discussed this since then.

"Do you remember what you told me when I first brought you here?" he asked, and she raised a brow.

"What did I say?" Lucy asked in amusement, even though she knew what he was asking.

"You called me your big brother. Not even your friend, but a freaking big brother," Tom said, and Lucy laughed harder.

"I didn't exactly find it funny," Tom said with a scowl.

"Well, you deserved that and even worse than that. You bully! Now that I think about it, I'm feeling offended now. Do you realize that what you did could be considered as workplace harassment?" Lucy asked, and Tom raised both hands.

"Okay. You win. This isn't how I imagined the conversation would go. It was supposed to be romantic, not make you angry," Tom said, and even though Lucy was amused, she raised a brow.

"How did you imagine that it would go?" she asked, and he shrugged.

"I imagined you would be thrilled that I brought you here, and you would ask why I chose here for our date, and I will tell you it's because I want us to have the first date here before it is open to the

public, and then you will be very touched and want to reward me for being such a thoughtful boyfriend," Tom said, and Lucy giggled.

"Very funny," Lucy said as she took the arm that Tom offered, and she let him lead her close to the waterfall.

"How are we going to get home now that the jet has left and there is no car?" Lucy asked with concern since the sun was beginning to set.

"I could carry you on my back," Tom joked as they drew closer to the waterfall.

Lucy rolled her eyes, but before she could say anything, she stopped when she heard the sound of a violin, which had been hidden because of the sound from the waterfall.

"Can you hear that?" She asked as she turned to look at Tom.

"Let's see what is going on," Tom said as he led her around the waterfall to the other side of it, and Lucy gasped in surprise when she saw a beautiful yacht that had been hidden from view by the mountains.

A man stood on the deck playing the violin, and a table for two was set out there with a bottle of champagne chilling in an ice bucket and two glasses of wine on the table.

It was arranged in a way that they could watch the sunset as well as the waterfall.

"Oh, my God, Tom. This is so breathtakingly beautiful and romantic. When did you arrange this?" Lucy asked, and Tom shrugged.

"Last night, after Jade and Bryan said they were not coming with us. I figured we do something special," Tom said with a pleased smile as he led her to the yacht, and they both got on it.

"This makes me think of Titanic," Lucy said, and Tom shook his head.

"No, please. No. No drowning," he said as he held out her seat, and she giggled as she sat down.

"I thought you said you didn't own a yacht?"

"Yeah. I didn't own one because I wasn't a fan of it, but you sounded like you wanted me to own one, so I decided to get one for you," Tom said easily, and she raised a brow.

"What do you mean?" She asked, and he smiled.

"I mean exactly what you think. I got this for you. You never told me what you wanted for your birthday. So, after thinking about it, I decided that this would be a perfect gift. This is just to remind you that your boyfriend is super rich," Tom said, and Lucy opened her mouth to speak but shut it when no word came out.

"So, are you touched enough to want to reward your romantic boyfriend?" He asked hopefully.

"This is for me?" She asked, and when Tom nodded, she shut her eyes and took a deep breath.

"This is too much, Ace," she said, and he shook his head.

"No. Nothing is too much to give to you, Jewel. It was your birthday, but I was the one who received the best gift of meeting you. This is my way of saying happy birthday to you and thank you once more for coming into my life and being a part of my life," Tom said as he took her hand and kissed her palm.

"I should be thanking you, too, for being part of my life. I know I don't make things easy for you," Lucy said, and Tom smiled.

"I won't have you any other way," Tom said, and Lucy raised a brow.

"Really? Are you sure about that?" Lucy asked, and Tom chuckled.

"Maybe I will change a thing or two. Just a little," he assured her, and they both laughed happily, grateful for the gift of the love they shared.

764 Andy?

Although Aaron Jonas was a very wealthy man, he was never one to show off his wealth. But for the purpose of his newfound family who were coming home with him, he pulled out all stops to make sure they were comfortable.

Harry was surprised to see a stretch limousine waiting for them when they arrived at the airport, and he turned to his father with a raised brow.

Harry had wanted to arrange for cars to pick them up from the airport but Aaron had asked him not to bother since he had it under control.

Aaron merely grinned without saying a word as he ushered Candace and Jamal into the car where the chauffeur was standing and holding out the door.

"A limo? What a princess-like welcome," Jade told Harry in a whisper.

"She is a princess. Just don't tell her I said so," Harry said and Jade giggled as they both got into the car since the others had gone in already.

"Is this your car?" Jamal asked excitedly as he looked around the car in awe, since he had never been in a limo.

"No, it's not, Jamal. I don't have any need for such a car. I've been living alone for a long time and I don't even like to drive. I arranged for this because I didn't want us to go home in different cars, and this could accommodate us all," Aaron explained patiently.

"You don't have any cars?" Jamal asked with a curious frown.

"I do have two cars," Aaron said simply.

Jamal continued to ask questions and chatter endlessly as they drove to the house.

Candace, who had been quiet the whole time as she thought about this new world she was throwing herself into, and how ready she was for it, sat up and looked through the tinted window when she heard Aaron say they were close to the house now.

Although she knew that Aaron was wealthy since he was the owner of the popular HAJ studios, but she hadn't really expected that he would be living in such an opulent neighborhood.

She never imagined she would ever live in such a neighborhood oozing of wealth where manicured lawns met the gaze of stately mansions.

Her gaze was drawn to the towering oak trees which lined the streets, with their branches creating a canopy of shade that whispered tales of affluence.

As they approached Aaron's residence, a sprawling estate bathed in the warm hues of the setting sun, Candace marveled at the beauty of the house which was now to become her home.

The house was an architectural masterpiece that combined classic charm with modern luxury. The lush green gardens surrounding the property exuded tranquility, and their vibrant blooms and rioting colors were a welcome sight to behold.

"Wow!" Jamal exclaimed with excitement as he bounced in his seat while looking out the window. He couldn't wait for the car to stop so he could get down and look around his new home.

"You grew up here?" Jade asked Harry as they got out of the car, and he nodded.

"Yeah. My dad bought this property when I was about Jamal's age," Harry said, since he could remember that he had been just as excited as Jamal was at the moment, when they moved there for the first time.

"If your dad was this wealthy, why did you bother working for Tom?" Jade asked in confusion.

"Because I'm not my dad, and I'm not interested in photography," Harry said like it was the most obvious thing in the world and she scowled at him.

Matt watched Candace as she took in the view of the house, "It's beautiful," she whispered.

"Yes, it is," he said without taking his eyes off her.

"You're welcome home," Aaron said to Candace as he held out a hand to her and when she took it, he led her inside the house while Jamal held on to her hand.

Upon walking through the door, Jamal let go of Candace's hand and ran ahead of them to look around the place.

Jamal marveled at the soaring ceiling which was adorned with crystal chandeliers that sparkled like constellations.

In the heart of the house, a sweeping staircase led to the upper levels, its hand-carved railings guiding the eye upward.

"Am I really going to be living here?" Jamal asked in awe, and Aaron gave him a nod.

"Do you like it?"

"I love it," Jamal said happily, and they all smiled as they watched him climb the staircase.

"You have a wonderful home," Jade said with a smile, and Matt nodded.

"I totally agree with Jade," Matt said, and Aaron smiled.

"Why don't I show you around?" Aaron offered, and Matt and Candace followed him, while Jade chose to remain with Harry.

"Are you not going with them?" Harry asked and Jade raised a brow.

"You said you were going to show me around your house, not your dad," she reminded him.

"Alright, come with me then," Harry said as he took her hand and led her to his bedroom so they could start with that.

"Are there no domestic staff?" Jade asked curiously.

"He has people who come in a couple of times during the week to clean the place and do laundry. He prefers to cook his own meals and he tends his garden himself," Harry said and Jade smiled.

"Despite his wealth, he is a very simple man," Jade said with admiration.

"Yeah. That's where I got my simplicity from," Harry said and Jade paused and raised a brow.

"Who ever told you, you were simple? Don't kid yourself, Jonas, you're the most complicated man I've ever met," Jade said and Harry smiled.

"I would have argued, but since you say I'm different from all the men you've ever met and you love me so much that way, I think I will let it be," Harry said and Jade shook her head.

"That wasn't what I said. I said...."

"That was what I heard, and it's good enough for me. I don't need any further explanation," Harry said and Jade giggled.

"So, you would rather hear what you want and not what I'm saying?" She asked with a raised a brow.

"Let me ask you, am I the same with the men you've met before?" Harry asked and she shook her head.

"No. Not exact...."

"Do you love me very much?" He asked and she grinned when she realized what he was doing.

"You know, I do. But...."

"You've answered my question. That's all I need. Thanks," Harry said as he brushed his lips against hers and pulled her forward so they could continue walking, while Jade giggled as she followed him.

As they walked into Harry's room, Jade couldn't help but marvel at how masculine and organized Harry's room looked, more like his bedroom back in Ludus.

The stark difference between their tastes and personality was very evident when their houses and bedrooms were compared.

"When was the last time you visited this place?" Jade asked, and Harry chuckled since he could guess what Jade was thinking.

"If you are asking because you want to know if I had my room redecorated from the way it was when I was a kid, then I will tell you for free that the last time it was redecorated to this, was when I was in high school. I've always been this mature," Harry said, and Jade scowled at him.

"Are you indirectly calling me immature?" Jade asked, and Harry chuckled.

"Why will I call you that? I didn't even mention your name...."

"You didn't have to mention it. I know you were thinking it," Jade said and Harry shook his head.

"No, I wasn't. I think you're being so defensive because you are embarrassed about your room...."

"See what I mean? Who said I am embarrassed?" Jade asked and Harry resisted the urge to laugh.

"You did ask if we should move to the guestroom if I wasn't comfortable with your bedroom. And you tore out those pictures from the wall because you were embarrassed," Harry pointed out reasonably.

"This is why I don't like you," Jade said irritably.

"You don't like me? Why?" Harry asked sweetly.

"Because you are so annoying. This whole argument could have ended earlier had you simply said something nice and sweet," Jade said and Harry nodded.

"I see. Well, the good news is that I'm okay with you not liking me as long as you love me," Harry said and when Jade opened her mouth to argue some more he raised a brow.

"Do you want to fight or should we continue with the tour?" he asked and she pouted.

"Lead the way," she said grudgingly.

Harry smirked as he walked ahead of her, and he chuckled when she walked quickly to catch up with him and hooked her arm with his so they could walk side by side.

"You are so so mature, esquire" he joked.

"Shut up, Jonas!" Jade hissed.

Two hours later, after they had all settled down and were about to go have dinner which they ordered, the doorbell rang, and Harry turned to Aaron.

"Are you expecting someone?" he asked, and Aaron shook his head.

"I'm not expecting anyone. Why don't you go see who is at the door?" Aaron asked Candace and she frowned.

"Me? But I'm new here. How would I know if the visitor is a welcomed guest?" Candace asked, and Aaron shrugged.

"Whoever the visitor is, send them away if you don't want them to join us. This is your house now, so you are free to make such decisions. Go," Aaron said and Candace rolled her eyes as she stood up to go get the door.

Candace opened the door, ready to tell whoever was there that Aaron was busy and couldn't see them, but her jaw dropped and her eyes widened in surprise when she saw Andy standing there with a similar expression on her face.

Andy, who had been wondering why Cassidy had asked them to bring her to this address, was more than shocked to see Candace standing there.

At first she had thought it was the wrong address when they dropped her there, and she had been reluctant to press the doorbell, but seeing Candace there made her realize this was Cassidy's surprise for her.

Why didn't Cassidy tell her or give her a hint of what he had done? Although he had been the one who had taken her away from her family in the first place, she was thankful and happy that he sent her back and not to some other prison with the excuse of keeping her safe.

"Andy?"

"Candy?" they called simultaneously as they embraced each other fiercely.

Why didn't Cassidy tell her or give her a hint of what he had done? Although he had been the one who had taken her away from her family in the first place, she was thankful and happy that he sent her back and not to some other prison with the excuse of keeping her safe.

Seeing the surprise on Candace's face, Andy could tell that Candace had not known that she was coming. So how did Cassidy plan this and pull it off so successfully? Didn't he say they were in Heden? Why was Candace in Sogal?

Different thoughts ran through Andy's head as she hugged Candace, and then she pulled back to look at Candace again, and this time she touched Candace's face to be sure she wasn't dreaming, since this wouldn't be the first time and had dreamt of reuniting with her sister.

Candace couldn't contain her joy as she looked Andy over in the same manner that Andy was looking her over.

Just the previous night, she had thought her life was going smoothly, and all that was left was for Andy to show, and here was Andy, standing right in front of her. What more could she ask for?

"Where is Jamal? What are you doing here? I thought you were in Heden?" Andy asked and before Candace could respond, the others came out, and Jamal shrieked happily and jumped on Andy the moment he sighted her.

"Andy? How come she is here?" Matt asked in surprise while Jade narrowed her eyes and turned to Harry.

"You knew about this, didn't you?" Jade asked suspiciously.

"Why don't we focus on welcoming my second sister?" Harry asked with a pleasant smile.

765 Sweet And Funny

Harry and Aaron stood aside as they watched the reunion between Candace, Andy, and Jamal.

While Candace wept happily, Andy and Jamal laughed as Jamal tried to bring Andy up to speed with all that had happened in her absence.

"This is grandpa's house, and we will all be living here. Do you like it? Although it's not as big as Tom's house, it is also beautiful...."

"Jamal, why don't you let us introduce ourselves to her, and allow her to settle in before telling her everything?" Aaron suggested and Jamal nodded.

"Alright," Jamal said, and Andy glanced from Jamal to Aaron.

Although she had noticed their presence from the moment they all stepped outside, she had focused on Jamal and Candace mostly because she wasn't sure what to expect.

"I'm sorry. I should do the introductions," Candace said as she brushed off her tears and turned to face them.

"Andy, don't be surprised, okay? As soon as I get the chance I'm going to give you all the details. This is Aaron, my biological father, and this is Harry my twin brother. Dad, Harry, this is Andy, my sister," Candace said and before Andy could say anything, Aaron embraced her.

"You are welcome home. I've heard so much about you. Thanks for taking good care of your sister and Jamal. I'm glad that I get to have two beautiful daughters," Aaron said, surprising Andy.

Andy opened her mouth to speak but no word came out. Although she had told herself that Candace's family had no choice but to accept her as one of them, a part of her had been scared that they wouldn't be welcoming but standing in Aaron's embrace now, she felt at home.

"You are welcome to the family, Andy. I hope you will be a better sister than Candace," Harry said when Aaron finally let go of Andy, and Andy giggled as she embraced Harry while Candace rolled her eyes.

"Thanks for the warm welcome," Andy said looking from Harry to Aaron.

"You know Jade, she is Harry's girlfriend. And I'm sure you remember Matt," Candace said and Andy raised a brow before shifting her gaze to Jade.

"Jade Hank. Who would have thought you would turn out to be our brother's girlfriend?" Andy asked with a grin as she went to embrace Jade, and both Aaron and Harry exchanged a pleased look.

It was obvious that unlike Candace, Andy seemed to be more easygoing and open minded to change and it would make it easier to get her to feel at home.

"I saved you for last," Andy told Matt with a grin and he chuckled as he embraced her.

"I'm glad you're fine and came back in one piece," Matt said as he hugged her.

"I'm stronger than you think, didn't Candace tell you that?" Andy asked as she touched his cheek.

"You still look as handsome as I thought when I first saw you. I hope she isn't giving you a hard time anymore? She can be too much to handle sometimes," Andy whispered loudly.

"I can hear you, Andy. We all can," Candace hissed and they all laughed.

"I now have a favorite sister," Harry announced as he placed an arm on Andy's shoulder playfully and Andy giggled while Candace snorted.

"Let's go in," Aaron suggested and led the way inside, while Jamal held on to Andy's hand as though he was scared she might disappear again if he didn't hold on to her tightly.

"How did you find us? How did you escape from Cassidy? What happened?" Candace asked Andy now as they walked inside, since she had not been able to do that earlier because Jamal and the others had joined them before she could ask.

"Why don't we talk about it later when we are alone and you can also tell me all that has happened in my absence?" Andy suggested and Candace nodded even though she wasn't sure she could wait until then.

"Why don't you show her to her bedroom so she can freshen up...."

"Her bedroom? Which room?" Candace asked in confusion and Aaron smiled.

"The room opposite yours," Aaron said.

"The one you said was for someone special?" Candace asked and then it dawned on her that her father and Harry had known that Andy was coming hence she was asked to get the door.

"You knew she was coming? How?" Candace asked in surprise.

"Yes, Harry, tell us how," Jade said as she looked at him, and he shrugged.

"Cassidy texted me. He wanted us to meet..."

"You met with him? Was that the reason you decided to travel down with us? Why didn't you say anything to me?" Candace asked with a frown.

"He asked me not to tell anyone. Besides, it's a pleasant surprise for you, is it not?" Harry asked Candace.

"Hold on, was that the reason you went to the hotel? You lied to me?" Jade asked in disbelief.

"I didn't lie. It was business with Cassidy. I just didn't tell you who I was meeting because he asked me not to tell anyone," Harry said defensively.

"But you told Tom, didn't you?" Jade asked with a scowl, and Candace rolled her eyes.

"I can't deal with those two," Candace said as she pulled Andy with her towards the stairs so that the lovers would have all the privacy they needed to argue.

"Come with us, Jamal. Men should stick together," Matt said before Jamal could follow Andy and Candace, and he followed Matt and Aaron to the living room.

"Jade is a drama queen. Don't be surprised to see her hanging on his arm when they are done," Candace said and they both laughed.

Candace stopped when something occurred to her and she looked at Andy, "You don't have any luggage?" she asked since Andy was carrying just a handbag.

"Did he kidnap me with my luggage?" Andy asked dryly and they both laughed.

"You know what I mean. Besides, how can you joke about being kidnapped?" Candace asked as they both continued up the stairs.

"Why is Matt here if he isn't part of my welcome party? Don't tell me he is our distant cousin? He isn't, right?" Andy joked and Candace giggled.

"God, I can't believe how much I missed you," Candace said as she stopped to look at Andy's grinning face once again.

"For a moment I thought you might have forgotten all about me since you now have your family," Andy confessed with an awkward smile.

"How could you ever think such a thing? And it is OUR family not just mine. I can't forget you, Andy. Never ever," Candace said and Andy smiled.

"Yeah. You dare not," Andy said as she embraced Candace again.

"This is your bedroom...."

"I can't believe he reserved a bedroom for me," Andy said, feeling very touched by the thoughtful gesture.

Candace smiled, "I know, right? Well, this is my bedroom. That is Jamal's bedroom. The one next to yours is Harry's, and that is Dad's," Candace said and Andy grinned.

"Dad's," Andy repeated with a giggle.

"That sounds so foreign coming from you. Am I dreaming, Candace, or do we really have a family now? A father and a brother?" Andy asked as they both walked into the bedroom.

"We have always had a family. You, me and Jamal. But now we have a dad and a brother. And no, you are not dreaming," Candace said as she watched Andy look around the bedroom.

"Are we going to be living here? What about our apartment?" Andy asked curiously.

"You don't mind living here, do you?" Candace asked and Andy shrugged.

"Where else will I want to live when my family is here? As long as I'm welcome here, I will stay. We have so much to talk about, Candy. I have so much to tell you, and so much I want to ask you," Andy said and Candace grinned.

"Me too. I will go get you some clothes and you can freshen up so we join the others for dinner. Let's stay up all night to chat," Candace suggested as she headed for the door.

"Wait," Andy called when something occurred to her and she narrowed her eyes.

"You didn't answer my question earlier, and I noticed you didn't say anything about Matt's bedroom just now. Is it what I'm thinking?" she asked, wriggling her brows playfully and Candace giggled.

"If you're asking if I'm dating him now, the answer is yes," Candace said and quickly walked out of the door, but not fast enough to miss Andy's shriek of delight at the news.

Candace giggled as she unpacked her bag to take out some clothes for Andy. They were both going to have to find a way to go get the rest of their clothes from their former place.

"You look really happy," Aaron observed with a happy smile.

He had come to find out if Andy needed anything but had stopped by Candace's door when he saw that it was open and Candace was unpacking, he decided to check with her instead.

"I am. I am actually very happy," Candace admitted happily.

"Thanks for welcoming her that way and for preparing a room for her. It means a lot to me," Candace said as she stopped what she was doing to look at Aaron.

"She is your sister, and as such, my daughter too. You don't need to thank me for that. I wanted to see if she needed anything," Aaron said and Candace smiled.

"She is fine. I will give her some of my clothes and maybe tomorrow or next we can go to our place to get some of our stuff," Candace said and Aaron was silent for a moment.

"Do you really have to go back there? Can't you just get new things? Or is there something very valuable there that you can't let go of?" he asked carefully, not wanting to offend her.

Candace thought about it for a moment, "Not exactly valuable. It's just that I'm attached to lots of my stuff," Candace explained and he nodded.

"I still don't want you girls going back there. I don't think it's safe. So, why don't I have some people go over there and move all your stuff to a warehouse. And then at a later time you can go pick up

your valuables? Until then you both can get new clothes and whatever you need. Don't bother searching for a job. I will take care of your school and Jamal. And I will take care of whatever Andy wants to do. What do you think she might want to do? Would she want to go to school too? Or has she graduated? Or do you think she might want to work? I can get...."

"Calm down, dad," Candace said with an amused smile.

Andy, who was dressed in a bathrobe and had come to ask Candace for a hair brush, stood by the open door with a grin on her face as she listened to Aaron who had his back to her.

"I'm calm," Aaron said and then turned when he saw the way Candace was grinning as she looked behind him.

"You're here," he said as his cheeks burned with mild embarrassment.

"Yes, I am. I came to get a brush for my hair," Andy said with a grin.

Even though she had only just met Aaron, she loved him already and had no doubt that they were going to get along really well.

"Oh, I didn't remember to ask them to get that. I'm sorry. I didn't know what beauty products you use, and since I couldn't ask Candace, I asked them to get the same ones Candace use. I hope it's to your liking?" Aaron asked hopefully.

"Yes. It is fine. Thanks for going through so much trouble for my sake," Andy said and Aaron gave her a nod.

"I will leave you two now. We will be waiting downstairs for you both to join us for dinner," Aaron said as he walked away, and both Candace and Andy giggled.

"What do you think about them?" Candace asked curiously.

"You mean our dad and brother?" Andy asked and Candace nodded.

"Aaron is sweet, and Harry is funny. I thought things were supposed to be awkward between us in this situation, but I don't feel awkward at all," Andy said and Candace smiled.

"Yeah, I felt so too. I'm glad. Here is the hairbrush and some clothes. Go get dressed let's join the others. The earlier we get done with dinner, the sooner we can talk," Candace said and followed Andy as she returned to her bedroom to get dressed.

766 Sleepover

Candace and Andy didn't take too long before joining the rest of the family members downstairs for dinner.

As curious as they all were, nobody asked Andy any questions about what happened between her and Cassidy or where he had taken her because Jamal was present at the dining, and they didn't want to talk about what had happened in front of him. As a result of that, Jamal did most of the talking.

Jamal told Andy all about Tom and Lucy, and then he went on to tell her about Tom's parents and Lucy's parents, especially his two grandmothers, and then about his fight with Dawn and how they had made up.

Because they all understood just how excited he was to see his aunt, and they knew that he would be going to bed after dinner, no one bothered to remind him that it was bad table manners to talk while eating.

Andy listened with delight and even asked him questions, eager to hear all he had to say since she had missed him so much, and Jamal was more than happy to supply her with all the information in his head which he had been storing for her.

He even told her how he had held Grandpa Aaron's hand at the hospital when he was sad, and how that had helped heal him.

"Wow, you really do have healing hands," Andy said and Jamal nodded.

"I do. Have I told you I went on a date with Lucy?" Jamal asked when he remembered that he was yet to mention that.

"Jam, if you feed your aunt with all this information today, what are you going to tell her tomorrow? Won't you run out of things to say?" Candace asked and Jamal paused for a moment.

He shook his head, "I don't think so. There will always be something to talk about," he said with a shrug and the others laughed.

Immediately after eating, Harry offered to do the dishes and signaled Jade to join him so that Andy and Candace could have some time alone together.

Matt offered to read Jamal a bedtime story and tuck him in, so that Andy could get some rest, and Andy promised to tuck him in the next day.

As Andy and Candace rose to retire to her bedroom, Andy looked at Aaron, "Thank you for being so warm and welcoming...."

"You don't have to thank me for that, Andy. I'm happy to have you. I had too many empty bedrooms, and now everywhere is filled. What more can I ask for?" Aaron asked and Andy smiled.

"Thank you," Andy said once again before walking away with Candace.

"I never would have thought that our little Jam had a thing for older women," Andy said, and they both laughed.

"I could hardly believe it myself, but Lucy is a wonderful person after all. Talking about Lucy, I should call her to let her know you are back. I can't believe we were just talking about you two nights ago, and here you are. Lucy and Sonia are going to be happy to know you're back. You remember Sonia, right?" Candace asked and Andy smiled.

"How can I forget her? She touched my boobs, remember? And asked us to make Bryan feel better," Andy said, and Candace laughed as they walked into the bedroom.

"Yeah, she did."

"By the way, I didn't want to ask any questions while Jamal was speaking, but Jamal said something about Lucy being your cousin. Is that so?" Andy asked curiously.

Although Cassidy had explained the relationship between Candace and everyone in the pictures he brought her, he had not mentioned Lucy being cousins with Candace and Harry.

"Yes. She has a twin brother too. Lucas," Candace said as they both got on the bed.

"We have a whole family, Candace. What about your mom? Is she late? And how did you end up at the orphanage if you have such a large family?" Andy asked, and Candace sighed.

"It's a really long story. You know what? Let's give Lucy and Sonia a call to inform them you're here now, and after that, we can spend the rest of the night talking," Candace suggested as she picked up her phone to call Lucy and Sonia.

Before she could dial their lines, a knock sounded on the door and Jade poked her head in.

"Sorry, girls. I know you're dying to catch up on each other's lives, but I'm also dying to know what happened to you, Andy. I can't wait until tomorrow," Jade said and Candace rolled her eyes.

"You never mind your business, do you?" Candace asked and Jade nodded.

"My business is to mind other people's business. Have you forgotten that already? Besides, I was involved in all that happened and knew about her abduction before you. And how dare you talk to me that way because Andy is back? I was your best friend in her absence, remember?" Jade asked with a scowl as she got on the bed.

Andy giggled, "I thought you were doing the dishes with your boyfriend?"

"He is doing the dishes alone. He volunteered to do it, but I didn't. Besides, I'm just here for a quick chat so I can join him in the bedroom when he is done with the dishes. So? What happened?" Jade asked excitedly.

"We were going to call Lucy and Sonia first to let them know she is back before talking about it," Candace said and Jade shrugged.

"Let's do that then. I have some time to spare," she said with a wide smile and Andy giggled.

"I wouldn't have thought you were this fun. You always looked stiff and unfriendly," Andy said and Jade shrugged.

"I think I preferred her back then to now. Now she is so noisy and annoying," Candace said and Jade scowled.

"You don't mean that. We both know you don't mean it. I know you love me," Jade said as she placed her arm around Candace's shoulders and pecked her, and Candace giggled as she pushed her away, while Andy grinned as she watched them.

Watching them, Andy was glad to see that Candace had been happy in her absence. She had always worried about her and Jamal, but seeing how she was surrounded by these wonderful people, she was glad to know she had been worried for nothing.

Candace and Jamal had been in good hands, and even if she had not returned, they would have been alright.

"It's getting late, if you're going to call them you should do so now. Or we can just chill and call them tomorrow," Jade suggested.

"I'd rather share the good news with them right now," Candace said as she did a group call.

"Andy, hide behind us so that we can surprise them," Jade said as she and Candace covered Andy from view.

Lucy who had just finished having dinner with Tom and was now taking a tour around the yacht with him, paused when her phone started ringing with a video call and she took it out of her handbag.

"It's Candace," she said, looking at Tom.

Hearing that it was Candace, Tom could guess what she wanted to tell Lucy, so he nodded, "It might take a while, so you can go take the call in the cabin. I will be at the deck," he said and Lucy kissed him lightly on the lips before walking away.

"Hey! Guess what, girls," Lucy said excitedly since she could see that Sonia had joined the call as well.

Candace and Jade exchanged a look at Lucy's excitement since she had taken the question out of Candace's mouth.

"What?"

"Tell us," Jade and Sonia said at the same time while Candace decided to wait to hear Lucy's news before sharing hers.

"Tom got me a yacht," Lucy announced in a giddy singsong voice, and they all looked at her in surprise while Sonia screeched happily.

"A yacht? That's huge, girl! Congrats baby!" Sonia said happily and Lucy smiled happily as she turned the camera around so they could see the cabin view.

"Thanks, love. Take a look," she said as she showed them the interior of the cabin and as she moved around her voice bubbled with excitement as she told them how the jet had brought them to this place and how Tom had led her to the yacht and what he had said as he presented the gift to her.

"Aww!" They all echoed as they listened.

"Your boyfriend is so romantic," Andy said, forgetting that she was hidden from view and both Lucy and Sonia noticed her presence for the first time and Lucy quickly switched back her phone so she could see who had spoken.

"Who is that?" Lucy asked curiously.

"Brandy?" Sonia asked doubtfully.

"The only one and original," Brandy said with a wink as Jade and Candace moved to the side to reveal her, and Sonia screamed happily, shocking Bryan who had been busy going through a script beside her.

"It's Brandy. Candace's sister. Remember her? She is back," Sonia quickly explained to Bryan before returning her attention to the group call.

"Oh, my! That was the reason you called and here I was going on and on about myself when you were the one who called. Sorry, I hijacked the conversation...."

"It's fine, Lucy. Your news was just as important," Candace assured her.

"It is nowhere close to this. Welcome home, cousin. I've heard a lot about you and I'm glad you've finally come home," Lucy said to Andy with a happy smile.

Cousin, Andy mused with a happy smile. Candace's family never ceased to surprise her with how warm and welcoming they could be.

"And I've heard so much about you from Jamal," Andy said with a grin and Lucy giggled.

"He must have been very excited to see you," Lucy said and Andy nodded.

"He sure was," Andy said with a grin.

"What happened? How are you here? Did you escape or something?" Sonia asked curiously.

"Remember the business Harry and Tom claimed to have at the hotel? Apparently, it was a meeting with Cassidy, the guy who kidnapped her," Jade supplied and both Sonia and Lucy looked at her surprised.

"Really?" Sonia asked and both Jade and Candace nodded.

"Why were they so secretive about it then?" Lucy asked and Candace shrugged.

"Harry said Cassidy asked him not to tell anyone, and they wanted it to be a surprise to us. Andy didn't know she was being sent to us either," Candace explained happily.

"And to be honest with you, I don't really mind. I absolutely loved the surprise. Imagine going to get the door and seeing Andy standing there. At first I thought it was a dream and I couldn't believe it," Candace said happily and Andy giggled.

"I thought so too. I'm happy to be back," Andy said happily.

"So, tell us what happened," Jade said eagerly.

"Well, that night he took me, we jumped into the water and had to swim a long distance to where a cargo ship was waiting...."

"Swim? But you can't swim," Candace cut in with a worried frown.

"Yeah. I almost drowned before the idiot realized the flaw in his plan. But somehow he managed to get me there," Andy said before going on to give them the rest of the details.

22:55

Sonia grinned, "This means I just got an extra wedding planner and bridesmaid," she said happily and they all laughed.

"You're getting married to Bryan?" Andy asked and Sonia lifted her hand to show her the engagement ring.

"Yep. And I'm pregnant for him too," Sonia said happily and Andy smiled.

"After getting married to him, will you still take him to clubs and ask ladies to make him feel better?" Andy asked curiously.

"That's something I can still do," Sonia said with a wink and Lucy shook her head while the others laughed.

"I can't wait to see you when you come for my wedding, Andy," Sonia said happily.

"And maybe we can have your bachelorette party in my yacht," Lucy suggested and they all happily gave their consents.

They discussed for a couple of minutes again before Candace decided it was time to hang up.

"As much as it's fun catching up with you girls, we've got to go now. I have a lot to talk about with Andy," Candace said and they all nodded in understanding.

"I need to get back to my man, anyway," Jade said as she rose, satisfied since she had gotten all the information she came for.

"And me to mine," Lucy said with a grin.

"And I to my fiancé," Sonia drawled and Candace rolled her eyes while Andy giggled at the silliness of them all.

"Go to your men then, goodnight everyone," Candace said before hanging up.

"You've made yourself some really funny friends. I didn't expect to return back to so much fun," Andy said after Jade had left.

"I'm so glad you feel at home," Candace said happily and they both turned when a knock sounded on the door.

Candace went to get the door and smiled when she saw Aaron standing there with a bag of snacks and another containing can drinks.

"I wasn't sure what you girls would want. But I read somewhere that girls like to have snacks when they have a sleepover. This qualifies as a sleepover even though it's your home, right?" Aaron asked and both Candace and Andy, who had come to join them at the door on hearing Aaron's voice, laughed.

"You're doing too much, Dad. You don't have to go through so much trouble," Candace said as she took the things from him.

"I want to. If you prefer to have wine...."

"I know where to get it," Candace assured him.

"Alright. Goodnight then. Have fun," Aaron said before walking away, while the sisters stood there looking at him as he left.

"Is it too soon to say I have fallen in love with him?" Andy asked and Candace giggled as they shut the door and returned inside to begin their 'sleepover'.

Chapter 767 Payment In Kind

767 Payment In Kind

Before Lucy could leave the cabin in search of Tom after the conference call with the girls ended, her phone started ringing and she smiled when she saw the call was from Sonia.

She wasn't very surprised to see that it was Sonia. She knew that Sonia wouldn't go to sleep until she had given her all the exclusive details about her trip and date with Tom.

"Shouldn't you be sleeping by now? What is Bryan doing, allowing you to stay on your phone for so long?" Lucy asked with false displeasure, and Sonia rolled her eyes.

"I'm pregnant, not bedridden. So, are you going to tell me about your date or do I have to grovel first?" She asked curiously, and Lucy giggled.

"I can't say the date is over since we are still out here, right?" Lucy said with a grin as she sat on the bed.

"Where is your date, then?" Sonia asked curiously.

"He is waiting on the deck. I guess he knew the reason Candace called, so he wanted me to take my time with the phone call," Lucy explained and Sonia smiled.

"Tom is a really cool guy," Sonia said with approval.

"That he is. The very love of my life," Lucy said and Sonia giggled.

She wondered if Tom had gotten her the yacht because he now knew she had changed her mind about marrying him.

There was no need to tell Lucy that Tom had overheard their conversation that night. She couldn't wait to see the surprise on Lucy's face when Tom hijacks her proposal.

"So? How do you feel being the owner of a yacht?" Sonia asked with a grin and Lucy sighed.

"I'm not sure I can explain it, but I think my happiness is mostly from the giver of the gift than from the gift," Lucy said and Sonia mulled on it for a moment.

"You mean you're more happy it's a gift from Tom," Sonia said and Lucy nodded.

"Yeah. Something like that."

"So, how did it feel, flying alone with Tom? Did you do it?" Sonia asked with a wink since she had known of Lucy's plan to have sex with Tom during the flight.

"Is Bryan not there with you?" Lucy asked with a raised brow.

"No. He just stepped into the restroom, hence I'm asking now," Sonia assured her.

"Well, if you must know, I did it," Lucy said with a grin and Sonia giggled.

"That's my girl. I'm so proud of you," Sonia said, feeling like a proud mother.

"Well, now I have one more thing I want to try. Let's see how it feels on a yacht," Lucy said with a wink and Sonia looked at Lucy with amused disbelief.

"You are becoming so wild, Lu. Even I, have never tried all of that before," Sonia said and Lucy giggled.

"Well then, we can say the student is going to become the master soon," Lucy said and Sonia laughed happily.

"You're becoming something else, Lu," Sonia said and she shrugged.

"I can't help it. Andy is so beautiful by the way," Lucy said, changing the subject.

"That she is. Did I tell you how I touched her boobs at the club?" Sonia asked with twinkling eyes, and Bryan came out in time to hear her, and he shook his head making her grin.

"Yeah, you did. I should show you a view of the deck," Lucy said as she rose from the bed and walked out of the cabin to go outside.

Once she stepped onto the deck, she turned the camera towards the waterfall, and Sonia gasped softly when she saw it, thanks to the light from the resort.

"What is that?" Sonia asked in awe.

"The natural waterfall at the resort. It's beautiful, isn't it? It still takes away my breath away no matter how many times I've seen it in the last couple of hours since we got here," Lucy said and waved at Tom, who was also receiving a call when he turned to look at her.

"Tom owns that place?" Sonia asked curiously.

"Yep."

"Hold on, isn't that the place you told me he took you to when you didn't know his identity?" Sonia asked and Lucy nodded.

"Yes. Here is that place."

"He ended up having you as he told you he would," Sonia said with a giggle.

"And I have him too," Lucy said as she turned away from the waterfall to show her around the deck and other parts of the water.

"Tom is so romantic and thoughtful. When did he plan all these? Or did he perhaps want us all there had we not changed our plans?" Sonia asked and Lucy giggled.

"You wish. He said he planned everything after Bryan and Jade said they weren't coming to Ludus," Lucy said, and Sonia smiled.

She had always known Tom was just the perfect man for Lucy and she was glad Lucy had decided to also make him the happiest man by marrying him.

"He is so good to you, Lu," Sonia said and Lucy nodded.

"He is. What about you? How was your trip? Were you guys able to visit your parent's gravesite today?" Lucy asked, and Sonia shook her head.

"No. We are at the hotel. We will do so tomorrow, and then fly back to Heden to get my stuff before coming back to Ludus," Sonia said and Lucy nodded.

"Just don't stress our baby too much, okay?" Lucy said and Sonia raised a brow.

"You care about the baby more than you do for me?" She asked and Lucy bobbed her head.

"Yes, I do. So don't stress my godbaby too much," Lucy said and Sonia scowled.

"Let it be known and recorded that you chose my baby over me. "I'm off to bed now, ex-best friend," Sonia said dramatically and Lucy giggled.

"You're so dramatic. Goodnight to you and say hello to Bryan."

"Whatever. Bye. Wait, say hello to Tom. Bye," Sonia said before hanging up, and Lucy giggled.

Before Lucy could turn back to meet Tom, he sneaked up behind her and hugged her from behind as he kissed the crook of her neck, and she sighed softly as she turned around to look at him.

"My love," she called as she kissed him.

"Maybe I should bring you to the resort often considering how much you seem to like the waterfall. We can make here our favorite spot, what do you think?" Tom asked and Lucy nodded.

"Yes. It could be our getaway spot," Lucy said and Tom nodded.

"Yes. That's a good idea. Let's go inside," he said as he led her back to their cabin.

"I told the girls that we can use the yacht for Sonia's bachelorette party. You don't mind, right?" Lucy asked and Tom raised a brow.

"Why should I? The yacht is yours, so you can do with it as you please," Tom said and Lucy smiled.

"I guess I can now tell you about the business I had to handle at the hotel," Tom said and Lucy smiled.

"You went there because Harry was meeting Cassidy there. What I don't get is why you left earlier than Harry and came back at the same time with him," Lucy said as they walked into the cabin.

"I went to make sure the place was safe for Harry and it wasn't a trap," he explained and something clicked in Lucy's brain.

"Is that the person your assistant was working for?" She asked as she turned to face him.

"Yeah. Sorry, I couldn't tell you about it...."

"It's fine. You don't have to apologize. I like how you said you couldn't tell me yet. I prefer it to being lied to," Lucy said, and Tom nodded.

"Thanks. So, did you talk to her?" Tom asked, and Lucy smiled.

"Yeah, I did. She is beautiful, and I think she will blend in just fine," Lucy said as she turned her back to him to unzip her dress.

"That is good to know. I was on the phone with Harry earlier. He likes her," Tom said and Lucy smiled.

"Harry. You both have a really special friendship. So, what if it had been a trap? Would you have walked into it on his behalf?" She asked and Tom nodded.

"Why not? Do you have any idea the number of risks Harry has taken on my behalf?" Tom asked and Lucy smiled.

"No, I don't. But I can tell you that your bromance is inspiring," Lucy said as she stepped out of her dress.

"I wonder how much information your secretary gave him. Didn't you guys carry out a background check on him before employing him?" Lucy asked, and Tom shrugged.

"We did. Cassidy must have done a thorough job on him," Tom said, and Lucy nodded as she unbuttoned his shirt since he was still dressed.

"So, what now? Do you want to employ a new secretary?" Lucy asked curiously, and Tom shook his head.

"Nah. I think I'm done having secretaries. I don't think I can trust anyone else," Tom said dismissively, and Lucy looked at him with a mischievous grin.

"You know, I can be a director and your secretary. Part-time secretary, but you can only pay me in kind," Lucy said with a wink and Tom chuckled as he took off his shirt.

"I am beginning to think I've spoilt you so bad that you want to take advantage of me at every opportunity you get," Tom said with an amused smile.

"I guess you're not interested in my offer then," Lucy said with a shrug as she unfastened his belt.

"Can I ever say no to my queen? How do you intend to get paid?" Tom asked with mock seriousness.

"You know how," she said with a naughty smile and he chuckled.

"How about I pay you three times a day then? Once before we start work, another during lunch break, and the last at the close of work. What do you say?" Tom said, and Lucy giggled.

"I don't think I can keep up with your energy so I'm going to have to take my offer back," Lucy said, and Tom laughed.

"You can't do that to me," he said as he ran his hands down her naked body and kissed the crook of her neck.

Lucy sighed with pleasure, "How about we find out what it's like to make love on water since we've tried it in the air?" Lucy asked and Tom chuckled.

"I think you are going to keep up with my energy just fine," he said as he stepped out of his pants.

"We will see about that," Lucy said as she took his hands and led him to the bathroom so they could freshen up first before having their way with each other.

Chapter 768 As Equals

768 As Equals

Candace and Andy lay on the bed as Candace told Andy all that had happened after she left.

She started by telling her how she had traveled to Varis to see Jero and about Jero's package and how that had led to her finding out about how she had ended up at the orphanage.

"You mean your own biological mother did something like that? Where is that bitch? She had better be dead, else I'm going to fuck her up," Andy hissed angrily and Candace found herself laughing.

"Save your anger. Harry and Tom fucked her up already. And trust me, they did a good job of it. Better than anything you could have ever done," Candace assured her, and Andy raised a brow.

"Are you underestimating me now?"

"We don't have the means to fuck up someone like Sara...."

"I haven't told you yet. Give me a moment," Andy said as she rose to get her handbag from the dressing table and she brought out three envelopes.

"What are those?" Candace asked and Andy poured out the contents of the envelopes and Candace gasped when she saw pictures of her and Jamal as well as all the others.

"How did you get all these?" Candace asked and Andy shrugged.

"Cassidy wanted me to know you were safe and doing fine so he had his men keep an eye on you and he sent me your pictures," Andy said and Candace shivered.

"It is scary to know he had his eyes on us this whole time. Imagine if he wanted to hurt me," Candace said and Andy nodded.

"Yeah. I understand. But he did it for my sake because I was very worried," Andy said apologetically.

"He must really care about you. That reminds me, why did you sound that way earlier when you talked about how he didn't say goodbye? Do you have feelings for him?" Candace asked and Andy sighed.

"I don't know. Maybe I like him. I had sex with him last night. And before you ask or make any assumptions, he didn't force me or make any advances at me. It was all me. I should say I blackmailed him emotionally into doing it," Andy said and Candace raised a brow.

"Ever heard of Stockholm syndrome?" She asked and Andy rolled her eyes.

"You can't call it that if my captor happens to be the one who deflowered me years ago and the best lover I've ever had even though it wasn't done with my consent," Andy said and Candace sighed.

"You can't refer to those men Jero forced on you as lovers," Candace said and Andy shrugged.

"Maybe not. But you get what I mean. It's been a long time since I had sex and I wanted it with him. And it was really good. I didn't feel like washing off my flesh afterward. As a matter of fact, I slept off on his bed," Andy said and Candace raised a brow.

"So, what now? Are you in love with him?" Candace asked and Andy shook her head.

"I don't think I am. Or maybe I'm not sure. He was just so different from the Cassidy I know. If I had met him under different circumstances, I would have fallen for him. Too bad things happened the way they did. Anyway, so about the bitch that gave birth to you, what was done to her?" Andy asked, returning to the subject.

"I wasn't done with the story," Candace said and Andy raised a brow.

"Wait. What? You mean she did more after selling you off for fame and breaking that sweet man's heart by running off with his money and abandoning a week-old baby?" Andy asked in disbelief.

"Shocking isn't it?" Candace asked before going ahead to tell her how she had come back wanting to meet Harry because she wanted a transplant and how Lucy had confronted her.

"I didn't tell you yet how I'm related to Lucy, did I?" Candace asked and then digressed a bit to tell her about Sara's relationship with Lucy's mom and what she had done to her own family.

The more Candace spoke, the more Andy's eyes widened in disbelief and she gasped and hissed in outrage at the despicable things Sara had done.

By the time Candace was done telling her everything, Andy had concluded that Sara was the most evil bitch to walk the face of the earth.

Andy clapped as Candace told her how Harry and Tom had set Sara up, and when Candace showed her the video, Andy laughed happily, "Those two deserve a lap dance," Andy said and Candace laughed.

"Jade and Lucy would kill you if you dare go near their men," Candace said and Andy shook her head.

"Not me. I'm done with that, but I can pay for it, but I won't since I don't want to get on anyone's bad side," Andy said with a grin, and before Candace could ask her any question she raised the bank documents on the bed which Candace had failed to check.

Candace gasped when she saw the amount of money the account held, "How did you get this?"

"Cassidy gave it to me. He said he wants me to have a better life," Andy said with a shrug.

"Do you know what this means? Even if you didn't end up being part of such a wealthy family, we would have also been wealthy. We are stinky rich, Candy," Andy said happily.

"Do you think I should accept Sara's and all that my adoptive parents left me?" Candace asked and Andy frowned.

"You weren't going to? Are you kidding me? If anyone deserves it, it is you. Sara would never have had all of that if she didn't sell you. And your adoptive parents left all of that for you so it is all yours. Why will you want to reject it?" Andy asked and Candace sighed.

12:27

"You weren't going to? Are you kidding me? If anyone deserves it, it is you. Sara would never have had all of that if she didn't sell you. And your adoptive parents left all of that for you so it is all yours. Why will you want to reject it?" Andy asked and Candace sighed.

"Maybe because I am scared and I don't know what to do with all of it. How do I manage Sara's company or that of my adoptive parents?" Candace asked and Andy rolled her eyes.

"That's the simplest part. You get capable people to manage them for you. All you have to do is sit back and enjoy your money. We have worked so hard, Candy. We deserve this break," Andy said and Candace nodded.

"I suppose you're right. Let me ask you a question. How do you feel about being surrounded by all these accomplished people? Sonia is a famous writer, Lucy is a director at I-Global, and Jade is a big-shot lawyer at her young age. How do you feel?" Candace asked and Andy shrugged.

"Proud, of course. Finally, I get to be around people who can motivate me to be better and not just other strippers like me trying to make ends meet. Why do you ask?" Andy asked and Candace shrugged.

"Sometimes I feel like an impostor. I know they love me, but I feel like I don't fit into their cycle. I feel small and inferior," Candace said and Andy placed a finger under her chin and raised it.

"I ought to slap that thought out of your head. Are you out of your mind? You are amazing, and you shouldn't feel less than that. They are amazing ladies, and we too are amazing. We did what we had to do, and if anyone dares to judge us for it, I'm going to punch them in the face," Andy said, and Candace laughed.

"Alright. I've heard you."

"You had better else I'm going to start by punching your face in for looking down at us. Stripping is an honorable profession too, you know? Do you know how many people we've entertained or spiced up their relationships? So what if they are lawyers and writers and directors? We also were

professional strippers. Professionals, Candy! People begged to have us entertain them. We were the fucking best! Don't you ever forget that!" Andy said and Candace rolled her eyes.

"Yeah. Whatever. Harry wants us to have an interview together to reveal everything. He says that way no one would be able to dig it up like some dirty secret later," Candace said and Andy nodded.

"I approve. When you do the interview, your chin should be up and your spine straight. Better don't act like you're embarrassed. Why am I telling you that now when I will be in the background cheering you? You don't have to worry about a thing," Andy said and Candace grinned.

"I'm so happy to have you back," Candace said and Andy smiled.

"Me too. I'm happy to have myself back," Andy said and they both giggled.

"So, what do you plan to do with all that money?" Candace asked and Andy shrugged.

"I will wait for you to take over those companies and then I will buy shares. I will buy shares in all your companies. In Dad's company as well as I-Global. And then I will look for a good record label to sign me and start-up music as I always planned to do," Andy said with a shrug.

"A record label? I think I-Global should be into that since they just started an entertainment subsidiary. Bryan and Matt are signed with them. And I'm sure you can use Dad's studio for your shoots," Candace said and Andy spread her hands.

"Perfect! Everything has fallen into place for us, Candy. We've got lots of money to last us a lifetime, and now we can do whatever we want to do for fun and not work our ass flat for money," Andy said happily.

"Yeah. It has. All of this feels too good to be true. Sometimes I'm scared I might wake up and find out I'm dreaming," Candace said with a sigh.

"Well, even if it is a dream you better make the best use of it and enjoy it while it lasts. If I can only have all these in a dream and not reality, then I will make sure to make the dream count," Andy said and Candace smiled.

"I've almost forgotten how positive you can be," Candace said and Andy shrugged.

"The world is full of negative energy already, why add mine to it? So, let's talk about you and Matt now," Andy said with a wink and they both giggled.

"It's past 3 A.M. already. We should get some rest," Candace said and Andy raised a brow.

"Is that your way of avoiding the subject?" Andy asked and Candace rolled her eyes.

"What is there to avoid? I already told you we are dating now. What else is there to tell?" She asked and Andy grinned as she bit into a cookie.

"The details. Every juicy detail of how you both finally got here to the extent that he is here, sharing a bedroom with you, and after that, you can give me details on everyone else and their relationships so I know how to relate with them," Andy said as she adjusted on the bed, letting Candace know that she had no intention of sleeping now or letting her go to sleep either.

Candace sighed, "Alright. Fine. If that's what you want, let's do it talk till Dawn then."

By the time they were done talking, it was almost 5 A.M. and they were both exhausted and yawning consecutively.

"I can't believe I spent all night chatting with you after my long flight," Candace complained with a yawn as she lay on the bed.

"Are you complaining? Do you want me to go back to the Island?" Andy threatened with a yawn.

"Instead of threatening me with that, you should just say you are missing Cassidy and want to go back to have sex with him," Candace said sleepily and Andy giggled as she watched her.

"Shouldn't you go to your bedroom to spend the night with Matt?" Andy asked as she lay beside Candace.

"Are you sleeping already?" Andy asked when Candace didn't respond, and she smiled when she realized that Candace had dozed off.

Andy looked at Candace's face as she slept and she sighed softly. Even though she was exhausted and wanted to sleep, she was still too excited about being here with Candace.

Her mind was still very active even though her body was exhausted, so as she lay beside Candace staring at her, she thought about all that had happened since she arrived and she smiled as her thoughts drifted to Harry and Aaron.

The last thought on her mind as she finally drifted off to sleep was of Cassidy. She wondered if he would keep an eye on her as he had done to her family. Would he reach out to her? A part of her hoped he would.

Maybe it was silly of her, but she hoped the last time she saw him wouldn't be the last time she would get to see him.

She hoped that sometime in the future, they would be able to meet again on friendly terms. Not as abused and abuser, or abductor and abductee, but as equals.

She hoped that by then they would have both fully healed from their past and he would have been free from his demons.

Chapter 769 Three Dates A Week

The next morning, Tom was the first to wake up, and as usual, he lay on the bed staring at Lucy.

The knowledge that she would soon become more to him than just his girlfriend brought so much joy and fulfillment to him that he was so tempted to ask her there and then to marry him.

Although a part of him was still scared that Lucy might reject him, but he didn't want to dwell on it.

He hoped that therapy, Harry, and Sonia should have been able to influence her answer positively before then.

After watching Lucy sleep for some time, he decided to wake her so they could watch the sunrise together since they were still on the yacht, and it would be a first for them.

Lucy opened her eyes when he called her name softly and kissed her. She smiled as she met his gaze, and from how clear his eyes were, she could tell he had been awake for quite some time now.

"Good morning, my love," Lucy greeted, and Tom smiled.

"Is that what you plan to be calling me now? You've been calling me that since yesterday," Tom said, and she smiled.

"Maybe that's because my heart is full of so much love for you, and calling you Ace isn't satisfactory anymore," Lucy said, and Tom's heart fluttered.

"Why do you look so touched?" Lucy asked in amusement as she watched him.

"Because I am. Did you sleep well?" He asked as she nodded.

"Of course. How can I not when I slept beside the love of my life?" Lucy asked as she sat up, and Tom gave her a pointed look.

"If you keep doing that, I might get you another yacht or maybe something bigger," Tom said, and she giggled.

"If I keep doing what?" She asked in amusement.

"If you keep making my heart flutter this way," Tom said, and she giggled.

"I woke you up so we can go to the deck to watch the sunrise together. Would you like to join me?" He asked, and she nodded as she got off the bed.

Without wearing anything else, Lucy put on Tom's shirt, which was lying on the dressing stool, while Tom took a short from his luggage and put it on before they walked out of the cabin.

Barefooted, they stood on the deck of the luxury yacht, the gentle lull of the water beneath them.

The air was crisp, carrying the scent of salt and the promise of a new day. They were there in time to watch as the sky began to blush with hues of pink and gold as the sun made its ascent, casting a warm glow on the horizon.

The rhythmic lapping of the waves provided a soothing backdrop to the canvas of colors painting the sky.

Tom stood behind Lucy with his arms around her as they marveled at the spectacle unfolding before them, the shared moment silently affirming the depth of their connection.

"This is so beautiful and peaceful," Lucy whispered softly as though scared that if she spoke too loud, she would break the magic of the moment.

"Yeah. I wish I could capture this moment in painting. Though the focus would be on you because you're more beautiful and peaceful than the sunrise to me," Tom said as he pressed a tender kiss to Lucy's nape, causing a shiver to run down her spine.

As the sun emerged, casting its radiant tendrils across the water, Lucy turned to Tom and kissed him deeply as the morning sun bathed them in a warmth that mirrored the love they shared.

After they broke the kiss, they stood there looking into each other's eyes. Although their hearts were filled with love for each other, words were unnecessary as their connection surpassed the need for spoken declarations.

The sunrise had witnessed not just the birth of a new day but the reassertion of a love that, like the endless expanse of the sea, stretched boundlessly into the horizon.

"The next time we come here, we should bring coffee along. It would be nice to do this with a hot cup of coffee," Lucy said, breaking the silence between them.

"You do know that coffee is bad for ulcers, right?" He asked, and she rolled her eyes.

"Do you have to bring that up?"

"Yes, I do. You shouldn't do things that are detrimental to your health," he said, and she scowled.

"Even cigarette smokers smoke despite the warning...."

"I don't care about cigarette smokers. It's you I care about. I want to spend the rest of my life with you, and I can't stand seeing you in pain," Tom said, and butterflies fluttered in Lucy's belly.

"The rest of your life?" She asked, and he cocked an eyebrow.

"Yes. Or do you plan to break up with me somewhere along the line?" He asked, and she grinned.

"I don't think so."

"Good. So you should take better care of your health and...."

"You should have stopped at that romantic line. Don't ruin it by nagging," Lucy said with a scowl, and Tom chuckled.

"We should go back inside. The thought that you're not wearing anything under this is making me want to do something to you," Tom said in a husky voice, and Lucy automatically looked down at his groin.

When she saw the small tent that was beginning to form there, she ran for the Cabin without saying another word to him, and Tom chuckled as he followed her.

"We should get ready to leave. Have you called Adolf to come pick us up? We might be late to the office," Lucy said as she took off his shirt and headed for the bathroom, but Tom held her to stop her.

"I was thinking. Since it's Wednesday already and we will be the only ones around the house once we get there, don't you think it will be a nice idea if we stay home for the remaining days of this week and just be in each other's company? I can't remember the last time I had you to myself alone in my house," Tom said, and Lucy pressed her lips together as she considered it.

"Hmmm. Stay home and enjoy each other's company. That sounds like a pretty good idea to me. We don't have to be in a hurry to leave here then. Let's spend some time looking around the resort, and then we can go home," Lucy said, and Tom drew back in surprise to look at her.

Before now, Lucy would never agree to stay back at home on a work day for even a day, how much more a couple of days. Lucy just seemed to surprise him more with her actions each day that he was now looking forward to her shocking him more.

"What?" Lucy asked when she saw how Tom was looking at her in surprise.

Tom shook his head since he didn't want to risk telling her what he was thinking and have her change her mind.

"It's nothing."

"It's something. Tell me," She insisted, and he shook his head.

"No."

"Why not?" She asked with a slight frown.

"Because I don't want to say it," Tom said, and she raised a brow.

"Should I make you say it?" She asked, and Tom chuckled.

"Please do," He said, and when she saw the naughty glint in his eyes, She shook her head.

"You know what? Don't say it," she said with a shrug as she headed for the bathroom, but Tom caught her hand and pulled her with him as he fell to the bed.

"Why the hurry? We've got all day, remember?" He asked as he lowered his head to her nipple, and even before his lips got there, her nipples hardened.

"You've changed a lot, and I love you more each day," Tom said as he kissed her nipple.

"In what way?" She asked with her eyes closed as she enjoyed the sensation of his hands on her body.

"In the past, you never would have agreed to skip work," Tom said, and she opened her eyes.

"True," She said simply since she knew why that had changed.

In the past, she had placed her job above him and was still treading very carefully when it came to their relationship, but now she had opened her heart completely to him and didn't mind missing work for a couple of days to be with her man.

"What has changed?" Tom asked as he continued to kiss her body while he caressed her with his fingers.

"Me," Lucy said, and Tom chuckled.

"I know. What changed in you?" He asked curiously since he suspected it had to do with her decision to now marry him, and he hoped she would open up to him.

"My love for you," Lucy said easily.

"You love me more, I suppose?" He asked as he looked at her now, and she nodded as she held his gaze.

"Yeah. More than I ever thought possible," She said, and Tom kissed her deeply before going on to make love to her.

After they were done freshening up, Tom gave Adolf a call to let him know he could be on his way to pick them up, and then they both left the yacht.

Tom took her around the resort, which was still being constructed, pointing out various buildings to her and what they were meant for.

"I want it to be like a country club. People can only get in here strictly by membership...."

"I'm sure not many people can afford it," Lucy cut in, and Tom nodded.

"Exactly. That is why it has to be that way. People naturally love to have something that not everyone can have. Wealthy people are especially drawn to the exclusive. It makes them feel powerful and affluent," Tom said, and Lucy raised a brow.

"I suppose that applies to you, too?" She asked with interest.

"You should tell me. Does it?" He asked, and she nodded.

"Yes. I believe you're like that in a way, and maybe I am too, even though I'm not wealthy," she said, and he smiled.

"You're the most exclusive entity I've been drawn to," Tom said, and Lucy raised a brow.

"What do you mean?"

"You are exclusively mine," Tom said with a wink, and she giggled.

"Who says you have me now?"

"I know I do. Your actions are louder than words," he said, and she smiled as they continued down their path.

"Perhaps I could put the yacht up for hire to those who come to the resort. What do you think?" She asked, and Tom chuckled.

"Why?"

"Well, it would be a shame for it to just be sitting here waiting to be used. It should be an asset, not a liability. I'm sure it will earn me a lot of money, especially if the members of the resort club are wealthy. Besides, there should be a service like that since most people would want to cruise on the water when they're spending time at the resort," she said reasonably, and Tom nodded in approval.

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"You're thinking like a business person," he said, and she arched a brow.

"The love of my life is a businessman, so what do you expect?" She asked, and he laughed softly.

"Are you sure you want to put the yacht up for hire?" He asked, and she nodded.

"Yes. Why? You do not want me to?" She asked, and he shook his head.

"I told you already. It's yours. You can do whatever you want with it. Besides, it's a lovely idea. But I hope you realize that you would need workers to be on standby to attend to those who would hire it," Tom pointed out, and Lucy's eyes widened as she stopped walking.

"I didn't think of that. I would become an employer?" She asked excitedly, and Tom chuckled.

"Are you that happy to be an employer of labor?" He asked, and she nodded.

"Yes, I am. But it might be expensive to maintain," She said thoughtfully as she reached into her handbag and whipped out her journal.

Tom watched her in amusement as she jotted down something, a frown of concentration between her brows as she murmured to herself as though she was making some mathematical calculations.

She stopped when Tom began to chuckle and looked at him in confusion, "What?"

"We are standing in the middle of this place under the morning sun, darling. Can't your budgeting wait until we get home?" He asked, and she looked around them for a minute before looking at him with a grin.

"Sorry. I got carried away," She said as she returned her journal to her handbag while Tom simply shook his head in amusement as he continued walking.

An hour later, Adolf arrived, and they got into the car to go home.

"Jewel?" Tom called, and Lucy, resting her head on his shoulder, raised her head to look at him.

"Yes?"

"Let's go on a dinner date," Tom said, and Lucy raised an amused brow.

"When?"

"Today."

"Another date? Why? You want to be taking me out on dates every day?" Lucy asked, and Tom smiled.

"Now that you just mentioned it, I think it's not a bad idea at all. Let's go out on dates every day, and when we resume work next week, it'll be after the close of work," Tom said, and Lucy giggled.

"You can't be serious," She said with a shake of her head.

"Why not? It doesn't have to be a formal date all the time. We went for an ice cream date the other time, didn't we? We can go on other types of dates. I'm sure we will never run out of dates," He said, and Lucy laughed softly while Adolf smiled as he looked at them through the rearview mirror.

"Okay, how about we make it three times a week? We've had one yesterday, and we will have one later today. That leaves us with another one before the week runs out. And maybe later we can discuss a proper schedule for our dates. Maybe twice within the week and once on weekends," Lucy suggested, and Tom nodded.

"I think that is a perfect arrangement. Let's leave it at that. Three dates a week, it is then. It has to be this way forever, okay? You can't change your mind later," Tom said, and when Lucy nodded in affirmation, he grinned, thinking that this way, he had secured his time with her in the future, even if they had kids together.

Chapter 770 Sharing The Shower

Instead of spending a day or two in Sogal as Harry had said they would, Harry and Jade ended up staying there until the end of the week after Matt had left.

After spending a couple of days with Andy, Harry had grown to like her even more than he had the first day she came.

Andy's presence seemed to have made Candace happier and even more confident, too. And he liked seeing how she also made their father happy. From the way she treated and related to Aaron, no one would ever guess that she wasn't Aaron's biological daughter.

Harry was glad that he had spent the last couple of days with his family, and he looked forward to spending more time with them in the future.

Jade, on the other hand, couldn't wait for them to go back already. She had had enough fun and had satisfied her curiosity, and now, all she wanted was to be alone with her man.

After packing their luggage on Sunday morning, Jade looked around Harry's bedroom, "As much as I enjoyed my time here, I can't wait for us to get back to Ludus," Jade said as Harry picked up their luggage.

"Is there a special reason why you can't wait to get to Ludus? By the way, is Tom sending someone to pick you up and take you home?" He asked with a straight face as they walked out of his bedroom.

Jade looked at him in disbelief, "Jonas...." The rest of her words were forgotten when he broke into a chuckle, and she realized he had been messing with her.

"One of these days, I'm going to make you pay for always messing with me," she threatened.

"I don't mind paying. The look on your face was priceless just now. Don't worry. I'm not going to go back on my word. You can spend a week with me as planned," he said, and she raised a brow.

"Who said I was going to let you go back on your word? I will pull down your door if I have to," she threatened, and Harry laughed out loud as they got to the living room where the others were waiting.

"Finally, you are ready to leave. I've been waiting for so long to be rid of you," Candace said the moment she saw them, and Harry chuckled.

"I know you are going to miss me more than anyone else," Harry said confidently.

"I won't. I doubt I will even notice that you've gone," Candace said flippantly.

"Didn't you say it is wrong to tell lies? Why are you lying to Uncle Harry?" Jamal asked, and Harry, Aaron, and Andy chuckled while Candace raised a brow.

"What is your mom lying about, Jam?" Harry asked sweetly.

"I heard her and Aunt Andy talking about how they miss Matt and will miss you very much when you leave," Jamal said, and the others laughed while Candace scowled.

"You were eavesdropping...."

"I wasn't. I heard you talking about it when I came to the kitchen to get a bottle of water for Grandpa," Jamal said defensively.

"So, you are going to miss me. You don't have to be shy about it. Admit it, baby sis," Harry said as he playfully placed an arm around Candace's shoulders, and she pushed him away.

"Be on your way already. I don't want you to miss your flight and have to stay an extra day," Candace said with a scowl.

"If you insist. But before I leave, there is something I need to do," Harry said, and just then, he received a call.

"Yeah. You're outside? I will be right out," Harry said before hanging up.

"I can leave now. Let's go," Harry said, and Jade raised a brow.

"What do you need to do?" She asked, and he jerked his head outside.

"You will see," he said as he led the way outside.

Once they got outside, they saw two cars parked outside. One of them was a brand new convertible, and immediately the drivers saw them, they stepped out of the cars.

The driver who drove the BMW approached Harry with the car key and handed it to him, "It's not mine. It's hers," Harry said, jerking his head to Candace.

Candace's eyes widened as she took the car key from the driver, "What? Mine? How?" She asked in confusion.

"Jamal asked Tom to get you a car, remember? It's a gift from Tom. We've got to go now," Harry said while Jamal screeched happily as he ran to the car, tugging Andy's hand to come with him.

Andy snatched the key from Candace and ran with Jamal to check out the car while Aaron smiled as he watched the stunned look on Candace's face.

Too bad that Tom had beat him to getting Candace a car.

"Be good," Harry said to Candace and his dad, but before he could turn around, Candace embraced him.

"Take care of yourself," she said and pulled away to look at Jade.

"Between the both of you, I don't know who annoys me most. Make sure you take care of him," Candace said before pulling her in for a hug.

"And who is going to take care of me? Will you tell him to take care of me?" Jade asked, and Harry raised a brow.

"Do I need to be told to do that? We should leave now," Harry said, and both men who had brought the cars carried their luggage into the other car to drive them to the airport, where their jet was waiting.

"Take care of yourself, my soon-to-be father-in-law," Jade said as she embraced Aaron, and he chuckled as he hugged her back while Harry shook his head.

"He hasn't even asked you to marry him yet. Do you know if he is going to change his mind and...."

"I will kill him if he does. If you don't want to be twin brotherless, advise him not to mess with me," Jade threatened.

"For a lawyer, you sure make a lot of unlawyerly threats," Harry said as he took her hand and pulled her with him so they could leave.

Candace shook her head as she watched them leave, "She is always so needy and clingy."

"That's exactly the kind of partner your brother deserves. And I didn't hear you complain when Matt was over you all through his time here. You seemed to enjoy it a lot," Aaron said with a teasing smile, and Candace scowled at him, making him chuckle.

"Take care of yourself, favorite sister. See you in Ludus soon," Harry called to Andy, who was busy checking out Candace's new car.

"I'm going to miss you, Harry. And you too, Jade," Andy said before they could get into the car, and they both waved at her.

"Same here," Jade called back.

"Tell Tom and Lucy that I love them," Jamal called out to Harry.

"You will have to tell them that yourself, Buddy. Have your mom call them," Harry called back before getting into the backseat of the car with Jade while the other man sat in the front passenger seat.

As the driver drove off, Jade rested her head on Harry's shoulder, "Finally," she whispered, and Harry smiled.

By the time they arrived at Harry's apartment in Ludus some hours later, it was already evening, so they decided to order dinner.

The anticipation hung thick in the air as Harry and Jade stepped into Harry's apartment. The cozy familiarity of his space brought a sense of joy and relief, and Jade couldn't help but feel a flutter of excitement about the prospect of spending their first night alone together.

The moment they stepped into Harry's bedroom, Harry set down their luggage while Jade dropped her handbag on the bed and fell face down on the bed.

Harry watched in amusement as she sniffed his sheets.

"It's so wonderful to finally be alone with you in here without the fear of anyone hearing us," Jade said after she sat up to look at him, and Harry chuckled.

He found it amusing that that was the first thought on her mind.

"Is that all you ever think about?" Harry asked, and Jade raised a brow.

"Is what all I ever think about?" Jade asked innocently.

"Having sex with me?"

"It's not sex. It's lovemaking. And no, that's not all I think about. I also think about getting married to you and having your kids. And you know I can't have your kids if you don't make love to me, so that makes me think of making love to you so much," Jade said, and Harry laughed out loud.

"You're too cute for your own good, esquire," Harry said, and Jade smiled.

"Am I?"

"Yes, you are. You effortlessly make me smile, and I find you very sexy," Harry said, and Jade rose from the bed and catwalked slowly to meet him.

"Really?" She drawled as she tried to strike a sexy pose, and Harry grinned.

"Really. Now, before you think about anything else, let's go freshen up," Harry said, placing his forefinger on the top of her head to turn her around before she could kiss him.

"Didn't you just say I'm sexy?" She asked with a pout.

"Yes, I did. But that doesn't mean I'm going to let you have your way with me so easily," Harry said, and Jade snorted.

"You won't let me have my way with you? I'm going to make you pay for all of this," Jade promised.

"I will be looking forward to it. For now, why don't you go shower?" He asked, and she frowned.

"Alone? Why? We have been showering together this whole time when we were at my family's house and yours, so why do we have to do so separately now that we have all the privacy in the world?" Jade asked with displeasure.

"Because someone needs to be in the living room to get the door when our dinner is delivered, and I need to quickly take care of something," Harry explained easily.

"Well, there is no hurry, is there? We can wait together and shower together after dinner has been delivered. Or you can handle whatever you need to handle while I wait to get the dinner," she said, and the doorbell rang.

"See? I will get the door while you handle your business," She said, flashing him a bright smile as she went to get the door.

Harry rubbed his chin as a thought occurred to him, and he walked into the bathroom.

"So, are you...." Jade paused mid-sentence when she returned to the bedroom and didn't see Harry, and her eyes narrowed when she heard water running in the bathroom.

"Harry, you are not having your shower without me, are.... Oh, wow!" she whispered softly, forgetting the rest of her earlier statement when she saw Harry running them a bath, and the only source of light in the bathroom was a couple of lit scented candles.

Candles flickered, casting a soft glow over the room, and the scent of lavender bath salts lingered in the air. The bathtub, brimming with warm water, awaited them.

"You got our dinner?" Harry asked, and Jade bobbed her head, unable to get her lips to work.

"I take it you would like a warm bath with me instead of a shower?" He asked when he saw how speechless she was, and once again, she bobbed her head.

"Say something," Harry said, and Jade smiled.

"I'm so happy my throat stopped working," she said, and Harry chuckled.

"You're always too easy to impress, esquire. Little things touch you so much," he said, and she nodded.

"I guess I should make it harder for you to impress me. That water is calling to me," Jade said as she stepped out of her clothes, and Harry shook his head as he straightened and picked up her clothes.

Harry neatly folded her clothes and placed them in the laundry basket before easing out of his and doing the same.

Together, they eased into the soothing embrace of the bath, the water creating a cocoon of tranquility around them.

Jade sighed softly as she leaned back against Harry, captivated by the intimacy of the moment. She couldn't help but marvel at the simple joy of sharing a quiet bath with someone special.

They both sat there in silence, enjoying the warmth of the water, and as the water began to cook, Harry kissed Jade's nape softly, and her eyelids drifted shut as she arched her neck.

"Want a massage?" He asked as he raised his hand to massage her shoulders, and she moaned.

"Oh, that feels so good," Jade groaned.

"Really? Wait till I give you a full body massage," Harry said, and Jade turned.

"Will you?"

"Yeah. We have the house to ourselves, remember?" He asked, and she grinned.

"Harry," she called breathlessly when she felt his hand go around her to the spot between her thighs.

"I've always wondered what it would be like to do this with you," Harry said in a husky voice as he slowly fingered her while kissing her ear.

"Do what?" Jade asked, unable to think clearly.

"Finger love you in a bathtub. You know I would have said finger fuck, but that's too crude a word for my precious lady," Harry said as he slid a finger into her, and she gasped softly as she adjusted against him.

"Tell me, how does this feel? How do you feel?" Harry whispered into her ear as he continued to use his finger on her, and Jade trembled.

"Harry, I..." Her voice cracked.

"Go on," Harry urged her.

She cleared her throat, "I can't. Not when your hand is in there, and I can feel your erection. And you better not get me started tonight if you're not going to go all the way," Jade warned as she pulled away from him and moved to the other side to sit opposite him.

"Who said I won't go all the way?"

"Don't mess with me, Harry," she said, and Harry smiled as he watched her.

"Alright," He said as he stepped out of the bathtub.

He picked up a towel before offering his hand to Jade to help her get out, too, and once she did, he handed her the towel.

They both dried their bodies as they returned to the bedroom, and Harry walked into his closet to get something to wear.

Harry stepped out a moment later wearing boxer briefs, and Jade, who was busy applying her night face cream, felt her heart skip several beats when she realized he was holding her white lace thong in his hand.

"Harry?" She asked, and he grinned.

"Remember what I told you? " he asked, and she nodded.

"Will you let me put it on for you?" He asked, and she nodded eagerly again, with a wide smile on her face.