

Fi een - The Kiss

Tonight I have dragged Rylan from his smelly apartment (seriously, I had to open a window, the stench of boy too strong) to my brother's where I know Zander will more than likely be hanging out. If he isn't I'll wait for him to inevitably show up. It's not as if I have two essays and a thesis to write. My plan is for Rylan to ask if he can take me out on an official date in front of Zander, and hopefully get a rise out of him. If his jealousy yesterday is anything to go by, I'm expecting an eruption.

"Do I have to do this Nell? I am seriously worried about being bruised. I'm too pretty to be punched." Rylan pouts making me giggle.

"Stop being a baby I promise they won't hurt you." I assure him, rolling my eyes playfully as we arrive at my brother's door.

"Ok but if I need stitches then I'm charging you." He grumbles as I knock.

"Yeah yeah you'll be fine - be a man." I tease as the door is pulled open revealing a topless Isaac in joggers.

"Hey Nell is everything alright? Oh, I see you brought your 'friend'." He frowns as he crosses his arms, weirdly intimidating Rylan who is a couple of inches taller than him at six foot three.

"Yes I'm fine, do you have room for two more?" I ask with a bright smile as I squeeze Rylan's hand who mumbles a 'hello'.

"Fine." Isaac rolls his eyes as he opens the door further.

Inside there are four pizza boxes messily strewn around the lounge, music is blaring and Owen and Adam (the boys other good friend) are playing a Star Wars game on their huge TV. Adam waves at us as we walk in, a sweet man who has always been small for a guy (he's only five foot seven), but his Brazilian heritage makes him very pleasing to look at. The boy's have been close with him since high school so I know him quite well, and he is just like another brother. His girlfriend Larnie is barely five foot making them a perfect couple, and is currently snuggled between his legs almost as engrossed in the game as he is. Their new college friend Ethan is on the couch with his current girlfriend Peach (like the fruit as she always reiterates) and one of Isaac's football mates Chase is also in the room. Ethan is ginger but actually rocks the look with piercing green eyes and pale skin which seems to glow, and Peach is curvy with the most beautiful midnight-black skin and corn rows down to her ass. Chase is your typical American golden boy with sun-bleached hair neatly combed, impressive muscles and a reputation with the ladies.

I freeze and try not to scream when I notice that Viv is unexpectedly in the room, sprawled over Zander's lap and he is holding her close. Jealousy burns my heart as I try not to glare at them, and squeeze Rylan's hand a little harder than necessary. If I look jealous then Zander looks livid, with a deep frown set in his features and his green eyes flashing darkly. I simply raise my eyebrows defiantly and step closer to Rylan, showing what he's missing out on.

"Hi Nell! I totally love your silky corset! You look so hot girl!" Viv chuckles, being infuriatingly nice.

Gah, I wish I could just rip those blonde curls right off her head! Calm down Nell... Violence is never right.

"Ha, thanks." I smile tightly before ignoring them both and pulling Rylan onto a spare space on the couch next to me.

Owen turns around from his space on the floor to stare between Rylan and me, unfortunately resulting in Adam defeating him. Adam and Larnie whoop in success whilst Owen curses, glaring at Rylan and me.

"Damn it, now I have to do his washing for a week!" Owen groans.

"Tough luck dude, a deals a deal. I'll hand you the first batch tomorrow." Adam grins as Larnie pulls him down into a deep kiss, his hands tangling in her long dark locks.

"Great. Why are you here?" Owen asks, obviously stropky now.

Uh oh.

"Yeah why are you here Rylan? Nell's welcome any time but you however were not invited." Isaac says rudely.

"Guys stop... Rylan wanted to ask you something." I reveal as I squeeze his hand, letting him know its go time.

"Really? And what might that be?" Isaac asks as he continues to stand with his arms crossed over his padded-out chest, looking very intimidating.

"Well... I really like your sister, and she likes me too..." Rylan starts.

"Oh does she now?" Zander scoffs causing everyone to look at him funny.

"Yes I do." I announce, daring him with my eyes to dispute my claim, causing him to go red and his eyes to narrow.

He just groans and looks away, much to Viv's confusion. Her sparkling brown eyes and perfect bronze tan makes her look like a model, and the daring mini skirt she has on makes her toned legs go on for days in a way that mine could never.

"Exactly, so as we both like each other, I was wondering if I could get your permission to take Nell out on a date." Rylan requests as he looks down at me, and I bat my eyelashes for extra effect. Where's my Oscar?

The women in the room (Viv, Peach and Larnie) coo from the sweetness of his words whilst Isaac, Owen and Zander moan in dismay. Adam is too preoccupied with Larnie, Ethan his phone and Chase picking his nails to actually care what is going on.

"No I never wanted this day to come." Isaac groans as he runs his hands down his face melodramatically.

"Listen we're only here as a formality and because Rylan is a gentleman, no one can stop me going unless I am given a very good reason, such as a... confession or something." I cryptically reveal, side glancing at Zander who is staring stonily at the pale grey wall which looks nearly black in this dark lighting.

"We know Nell... you're a grown woman now. Although you made me lose the game, I have to admit I am impressed so far and you seem like a nice guy Rylan. Even though I hate the thought of my little sister going on a date I am pleased it is with someone as respectful as you." Owen shrugs with a small smile.

"Thanks man I promise I will take care of her." Rylan nods.

"You better! Ugh, I hate that you are no longer ten Nell and I can't control you or manipulate you into getting me breakfast. I hope you have a nice time but I am expecting a good report, and if I hear you have treated my sister with anything less than respect you're going to wish you were never born." Isaac warns with a silly frown on his face.

He acts tough, but he's a big soie inside.

"I know." Zander suddenly announces. "Just to make sure everything goes well and Rylan keeps his hands to himself, why don't we make it a double date? Viv and I can go too and keep an eye on things." Zander suggests.

I am not sure whether I love or hate the idea. On the one hand, I have endless opportunities to make Zander jealous, and on the other hand, he has endless opportunities to make me jealous!

"W-What? Zander baby we need to talk about this..." Viv splutters, looking less than pleased.

"What's there to talk about? I'm helping a friend out and we get to spend time together as well." Zander shrugs making me roll my eyes as Isaac mulls over the idea in his head.

"Do you really want our first date to be with other people? It will be so much more romantic if it's just the two of us." Viv complains.

"I know... but I promise to make it special. And we have lots of time to go out as just the two of us in the future." Zander promises with a smirk in his voice, making me want to gag.

"Ok baby... you win." Viv giggles, before much to my horror leaning over and kissing him smack bang on the lips.

I think I can feel my chicken curry coming back up.

Isaac whoops at the interaction whilst Owen rolls his eyes and starts playing a new video game with Adam and Larnie who are largely uninterested. I turn away from the happy couple and hug Rylan who squeezes me comfortingly. I cannot believe she actually kissed him. I've never had to witness such heartbreak before.

"Right we need to go; I have to prepare for the early shift tomorrow morning." I murmur, feeling numb.

"Aww you have to work Saturday's? I feel for you Hun." Peach pouts.

"This week I do." I nod quietly as Rylan and I stand, not daring to look at Zander for fear of bursting into tears.

"Bye everyone." Rylan waves good naturedly, earning a nod from my brothers.

"Bye!" I call out in a slightly higher pitch than usual as I rush from the apartment pulling Rylan along behind me.

"Bye Nell, bye Rylan!" Everyone calls out and I wave blindly behind me.

I hear Isaac shouting for Rylan to 'look after Nell or else' before the door shuts behind us.

"Hey are you ok?" Rylan asks as he struggles to keep up with my wide strides.

"No! No I'm not okay!" I exclaim furiously as the moment Viv plastered her lips against Zander's is on repeat like a broken record in my mind.

How could he let her do that?

"Did you see the way she kissed him? It's so disgusting! Why would he let her do that?" I rage as I furiously jab at the elevator buttons.

I wish I could burn the image out of my mind.

"Hey calm down you're going to break that." Rylan coos as he grabs my hand, preventing me from practically punching the keypad again.

"And I don't know, they are dating I guess."

"Fake dating!" I cut in as I glare at him.

"Ok sorry!" He puts his hands up in surrender, remaining silent until we arrive at the first floor.

I storm out into the lobby as soon as the doors spring open, ignoring the people sat on the suede couches who look up as my little heels clack along the dark wood floor.

As soon as I make my way outside the cold air hits me, cooling my scarlet cheeks and calming me a little. I dawdle along with my arms crossed tightly into my chest until Rylan catches up to me, throwing his arm around my shoulders. We remain quiet as the traffic races past us in a series of zooms and honks.

"What appeal does she have anyway?" I grumble as we walk under a bright yellow street light.

"Well... she has a hot body and perfect tits. What's there for a man not to like?" Rylan shrugs making me want to seriously injure him.

"Hey!" I snap, not needing to hear how perfect she is right now.

I already know there is no way I can compete with her; I don't need confirmation from my friend!

"But so do you! Seriously Nell, you are beautiful. If he can't see that then that's his loss." Rylan promises, and I smile warmly at him - he is a nice friend.

"Thanks Rylan." I smile but it doesn't stop me from feeling anymore downhearted on the situation.

I know Zander said they were together but I didn't expect to have to watch them kiss and cuddle. It makes me feel a little bit like I'm being cheated on, which of course is ridiculous. He isn't mine and at this rate never will be.

I decide to spare Rylan an awful journey home by pausing my moaning for when I see Waverly, and asking him about his life.

"Hey do you want to come in? We've got some snacks and you can choose a movie." I propose as we arrive at my apartment.

"Sure, if Waverly doesn't mind." He shrugs, and I notice his cute smile.

At least I can try to take my mind off Zander and Viv for a while. I truly feel disheartened and dejected. This is proving to be much harder than I thought.

Just a little reminder that Nell isn't perfect, none of my characters are so they will make silly mistakes from time to time



Edited

[Continue reading next part](#) □