

A bright new day

A couple of days passed since Lexi joined **BIGHIT Entertainment**. She was handed an English copy of her contract and asked to read it thoroughly before signing it. When asked if she had any special requests, Lexi pleaded to have her mornings spared during work days, allowing her to attend her classes.

SNU Library – 3.09 PM

Lexi sat on the library floor between the shelves of the English Literature section. She browsed through the contract pages, highlighting the unclear phrases. Fully concentrated on her homework, she barely noticed the shadowy silhouette hovering over her head.

“It took me a while to find you! What are you doing here?” David murmured, entertained by the crouching position he found Lexi in.

“The librarian kept eyeing me although I was silent the whole time. I couldn’t think straight with her eyes piercing through my skull” she sighed in irritation.

David sat beside her, and together they read through the document again, making sure they didn’t miss any details. Once everything was settled, she put her signature in the appointed areas and headed to **BIGHIT** to submit it, thus finalizing her enrollment in the company.

BIGHIT Entertainment – 4 PM

As she entered the building, Lexi handed her papers to the secretary. The latter asked her to meet Namjoon, per his request, at the recording studio on the upper floor.

“It took you long enough. For a minute, I thought that the content of the contract scared you away” Namjoon chuckled, referring to the delay in receiving her signed copy.

“Not at all, I just needed to take my time reading it” she replied, eager to move on to the next step.

After touring the studio to familiarize with the area, she joined the idol in his office. The apartment was split in half: while one half consisted of the actual recording room, the other half comprised both the office and a small leisure section furnished with a sofa set, a bookshelf and a minibar.

“This place is basically my second home” he expressed himself “I spent more nights on that sofa than I did in the dorm”.

“You’re an overachiever” she praised him, enjoying the sudden exchange of words.

“Maybe, but more importantly, inspiration tends to hit at the most unexpected times” he explained himself further.

“So you’re a visionary” she acclaimed “Hopefully, I’ll be able to reach that level of inspiration one day”.

“One day” he said, bringing the chat to an end as he switched to a more professional conversation.

“According to your school schedule, your classes finish by 11/11.30 AM. I expect to see you in the studio by noon. On weekends, your presence is required at 10 AM sharp. You are allowed a one-hour break during the day which you can take whenever you want, however it is not to be used as a reason to come in late or leave early. You can have your meals in the studio or at the building’s cafeteria which you’ll find on the ground floor. I will be assigning you with daily homework, you can start working on it as soon as you get here. While the studio is open 24/7, your training session ends at 8 PM. You are welcome to stay in the studio as long as you want, but sleeping in is prohibited”.

Overwhelmed by the amount of instructions, Lexi wrote everything down on a piece of paper that she borrowed from Namjoon’s desk. Nodding in approval, she pondered “*Algaeseumnida*. Anything else?”

“Enjoy your last weekend of freedom. Your training starts immediately afterwards” he smirked, putting an end to the discussion.

External Dormitory, Room 613 – 7.15 PM

Putting her gray binder in the upper drawer, Lexi stared at the empty surface of her desk for a while, trying to figure out a way to make the most of her weekend. After a long reflection, she decided to write a couple of reviews to buy herself time in advance, knowing that she’ll be too busy to write essays next week. As her exams approached, she eventually devoted her weekend to studying, realizing she had more than her share of fun with David during the past couple of months.

Heart of Seoul – 10.13 AM

Growing tired of going through school books all night long, Lexi decided to go for a stroll downtown the next morning. So many things have happened since she moved to Korea and she realized that it has been a while since she last talked to her parents. She Skype-called her mother, and kept tilting her head to adjust to the phone screen. Soon enough, her parents appeared on the screen.

“Eomma, Appa, I am so glad to see you ! You have no idea how much I miss you !” Lexi shouted once she saw them.

“How are you dear? We miss you even more. Not a day goes by without me visiting your room” her mother replied, on the verge of tears.

“Seriously woman, the last thing your daughter needs is a waterfall of emotions onscreen” her father nagged, worried about Lexi’s feelings *“How are you doing child?”*

“I am doing just fine, Dad. Are you taking good care of Mom for me?” she teased.

“I am doing a good job for the both of us, worry not. Tell her, Felicia” Mr. Martinez stated proudly.

Mrs. Martinez gave her husband a look, before glancing back at the screen, starting a chain of questions *“What’s new in your life sweetie? How are your studies? Are you eating well?”*

“Yes, my diet is just fine Mom, although I miss your cooking so much. School is going smoothly, I am even doing extra homework to earn me bonus points; Pr. Jenkins is truly an artist in his field, he takes English Literature to a whole new level with his lectures, and even his exams break the standard rules. Coming here was definitely the best decision I have made so far” she answered her mother’s questionings.

“That’s a relief. We are very proud of you and encourage you to go all the way until you achieve whatever you set your mind on. Hopefully, you’ll get to shape your own work in the form of art one day” her father cheered.

“Speaking of art, I have something to tell you. Mom, Dad, I recently joined a record label as a potential lyricist” she broke the news to her parents, unsure of their reaction.

“ Alexandra Martinez, are you out of your mind?” her father’s tone suddenly raised over the phone.

“Now, now Robert. No need to lose your temper over this ... Robert!” her father stormed out, displaying a strong statement of disapproval, despite his wife’s pleas.

“I’m sorry dear” Mrs. Martinez exhaled “he barely came around to approve of your sudden life changes, you know how much of a narrow-minded person he is”.

“I wouldn’t expect anything more of him, I just wanted to let you know. I will not give up on my studies, rest assured; but this opportunity is good for me, and I will not give up on it either” Lexi clarified herself.

Mother and daughter ended their call with heartwarming wishes, sending each other love. Having recovered a bit of her energy, Lexi headed back to her dorm to study some more for a while before bedtime. As a new experience was waiting for her on the following day, she tried to keep the image of her father’s displeasure off of her mind.

BIGHIT Recording Studio – 11.55 AM

As soon as the lecture ended, Lexi bolted out of the classroom. She was so anxious to get to the studio on time, she forgot to submit her essay. By the time Pr. Jenkins started looking for her amongst the rest of the students, she was already gone.

Arriving at the building’s entrance, she checked the time and released a sigh of relief, realizing that she was five minutes early. It was her first day as a trainee and she vowed to do her best in order to leave a decent first impression; especially since her supervisor was none other than BTS’s RM.

Once she reached the studio floor, she stepped out of the elevator. Noticing that the door was still locked, she leaned against the apartment’s wall and crossed her arms, counting the minutes.

At noon sharp, the elevator doors opened and Namjoon accessed the floor. Spotting Lexi, he entered the password to unlock the door, gestured to her to go inside the studio and affirmed with a smirk “Well, you’re on time”.