

The intimidating one



Lilah always wanted to do a campus tour at a Korean university, and she wouldn't have missed this opportunity for the world. The area was offily quiet, as students were probably off campus, either partying or heading home for the weekend.

"Lilah?" an edgy voice called out her name.

"Yes, hi! Yoongi, right?" she eyed the guy from head to toe. He hid his hair under a snap-back baseball cap and was clothed in a gray hoodie, black sweatpants, and white sneakers, perfectly matching her light blue crop tops, sweats, and white Nikes. "Nice to meet you."

"And you. Wanna start the tour?" he led the way.

Yoongi's face was always hidden under his bangs, so Lilah didn't really know what to expect. For some reason, his presence was very intimidating and she couldn't keep her cool around him.

Amusingly enough, Lilah also noticed that her date was very nervous to say the least. The walk was silent for a while, before he launched the conversation.

"So Lilah, what do you like to do for fun?" he looked her way.

"Define fun," she chuckled, "I'm more of an introvert so anything I can do at home is fun enough for me."

"I see," he let out before finding an empty bench along the way. "Care to sit for a while?"

Lilah obliged and carried out the conversation, "What about you? What do you do in your spare time? Clubbing, maybe?"

"Oh no," Yoongi stated, "I'm as much of an introvert as you are."

"Well, that's a relief," she chuckled. "I wouldn't want to pass for a party pooper."

"You make great company actually," he stated. "By the way, do you have any habits?"

"Habits?" she eyed him in confusion, "Like what?"

"I don't know," he hesitated, "Smoking, drinking ... things like that."

"Oh not at all, as a matter of fact ..." she took a deep breath, "... I'm abstinent."

"Is that so?" her response took him by surprise, "It must be hard, isn't it?"

"It can't be hard if you never tried, am I right?" she wittily responded.

"Can't argue with that logic," Yoongi smiled, shaking his right leg in the process.

"You look nervous," she noticed. "Is everything alright?"

"Actually," he nervously chuckled, "I haven't smoked all day, so I'm kind of feeling off."

"Oh ..." was all Lilah could say.

An awkward silence reigned again, with Yoongi's leg being the only loud member.

"You can smoke if you'd like," Lilah said, halfheartedly.

Yoongi felt grateful, "You don't mind the smoke?"

"I do, very much," she stated, "But if smoking will help calm your leg, might as well get on with it."

"Thank you, I will be quick. But first-" Yoongi left the bench and stood for a while, as if he was inspecting something.

"What are you doing?" she wondered.

"I'm just checking where the wind is blowing so that I don't get smoke on you," he explained.

"Quite a gentleman," Lilah said to herself.

Once Yoongi figured out the wind position, he adjusted himself on the bench. He'd always look away to take a puff and head back as if nothing happened. His dedication amused Lilah.

"Are you wearing perfume?" he asked her all of a sudden.

"Y-yes, why?" his question came as strange.

"Because I think it's perfectly concealing the smoke smell," he commented as he tapped his cigarette.

"Have you ever wanted to do something you couldn't do?" he suddenly evoked the question.

"Yes," she looked at him, "Weed and tattoos."

"That's pretty bold," he commented, "but not drinking?"

"Nah, never." She further stated, "The only reason I want to smoke weed is for medical purposes, and I do believe tattoos are meaningful. But only small ones like on my wrist or on the back of my neck, nothing too showy."

"I see," her rushed explanation amused him. "I'm thinking of getting a tattoo too later on."

“Really? What do you have in mind?” she wondered.

“Something to cover my forearms,” he divulged, “I’m still thinking about it.”

“That’s quite extravagant,” she couldn’t hide her surprise. “Did you ever smoke weed?”

“Oh yes,” he nonchalantly replied, “I do it all the time.”

“But I thought it was illegal in Korea?” her amazement further grew.

“It is,” he winked at her, “But I’m careful.”

“God, I hope you are,” she nervously smiled to hide her concern.

Yoongi suddenly stood up. “I want to go for another smoke; do you want to walk around campus?”

“Sure,” she sighed internally, “Let’s go.”

Despite sympathizing with Yoongi’s nervous state, Lilah wasn’t really having it. The atmosphere became silent once again, and she chose to just look around the place instead while he’s finished. She noticed that the air was surprisingly clear.

Suddenly, his hand accidentally brushed against her hip. “I-I’m so sorry, I didn’t mean to.”

His instant reaction was cute, “It’s okay, don’t worry about it.” She turned to check up on Yoongi when she saw him playing with his lighter.

“Are you finished with your cigarette already?” she asked.

“Ah no,” he explained, “The lighter didn’t work because of the wind.”

Lilah let out half a smile, “Maybe it’s a sign to keep your cigarette unlit.”

Yoongi chuckled while playing further with his lighter, which suddenly lit up. “Oh, haha maybe it’s not.”

Lilah just rolled her eyes while Yoongi was about to light up his cigarette, when they found themselves back to the subway station.

“The station is empty at night,” Yoongi put the cigarette back in his pocket, “I’ll wait with you until the subway comes.”

The pair made it just in time. The last ride was scheduled in about 10 minutes. They stood against a pillar. The back of their hands brushed against one another, and for some reason, neither one of them removed it.

A couple of minutes later, a piling crowd entered the station. "I thought you said this station was usually empty?"

Yoongi scratched his head in embarrassment, "It usually is on weekdays. I guess it's different today."

Their conversation got abruptly interrupted when the subway arrived. "Well, this is me. Thank you for showing me around, let's catch up later!"

a few hours earlier

