A Historical Romance Novelette

by Meghan March

Chapter 1

"Win, either you take this role or admit this phase of your acting career is now over. It's as simple as that." Her agent's matter-of-fact tone shouldn't have felt as eviscerating as it did, but the lack of empathy was stark and noticeable. "It's just one fully nude scene. The rest are partials."

"Maurice, when have I ever done a fully nude scene? Never. I don't want to start now."

"Fine. Then we'll start pitching you for mothers and aunts and young grandmothers instead of main character roles. Things have changed, Win. I'm not going to keep turning down roles you wanted me to get you over details like this anymore. It's going to start affecting my career."

Windsor wanted to throw her phone out the moving car window, but she held back and breathed instead.

Maurice wasn't done after all. "I'm sure there are eight thousand other hot young things who would jump at the chance to do a fully nude scene with Silas Bohannon."

"Wait. What?" Windsor stuttered. "Wh-who did you say? I thought they hadn't filled the role."

"Studio greenlit full funding for the project this morning, as soon as Bohannon officially signed on. That's why we're in a hurry. They want to nail this down today. So, I'll tell them you're out. It's fine. I know they've got—"

"I'll do it. Say yes. Get me the contract. I'll sign it today."

"Seriously?"

"Yes, Maurice. Seriously. Now, I've got to go. Send me the contract within the hour, before I change my mind."

"Done. You won't regret this. This part was made for you, Win. Trust me. This has cult classic written all over it."

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"She signed the deal, Bo. I owe you dinner. I thought no way she would. Everyone knows she turns down anything with full nude. I wonder how the hell they managed to get her to agree."

Bo held his breath. He did not want to jinx this. "You're sure?"

"I'll read you the email I just got. This is what it says, verbatim. Dear Jim, Please let Silas know that we have a signed contract in hand and can share that Windsor Reed will be costarring in Forever, My Love. We are excited for the potential these two have to create an amazing movie for the studio. Then it talks about production and …"

Silas stopped listening.

We have a signed contract in hand … Windsor Reed will be costarring …

"I'm flying to LA tomorrow."

"You are?"

"Yeah."

"Why?"

"Because you're buying me dinner."

"But your ranch—"

"Has a foreman. I'll be there. Pick me up at the usual."

"Why do you always say you can't leave the ranch when I need you to go somewhere on short notice?"

"Because I don't want to. I'll see you tomorrow night. Give Katie my love. Good night, Jim." Bo hung up.

She said yes. Windsor finally said yes to doing a movie with me. It's on.

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