

## Dating 18

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"Mom?" I said as I looked between Liam and my mother.

Mom glanced back at me and smiled, "Oh, honey, you're awake,

"What's going on?" I said. I couldn't take my eyes off Liam who was sitting comfortably on our couch, his arm thrown casually over the back.

"Liam came over because I guess you guys are headed out to the ski resort. But I told him you were still resting so we got to talking and the time just sort of flew by," Mom said [www.novelworld.com](#)

"Your mom and I were picking up the conversation we always have about the best era of American film, Liam said.

"Can you believe this boy actually thinks the 70s is where it was at? What about the amazing 50s?" Mom said, shaking her head dramatically.

I frowned, "Wait, you guys have had this conversation before?"

Mom paused for a brief second and nodded her head, "Yeah. Liam's stopped by here a few times when you weren't around. I needed his help with fixing and moving a couple of things. He's always such a gentleman."

I was completely shocked by what Mom had just said. I had always assumed that Mom had never spoken to Lin before. She of course knew that Noah and I were friends and even more. But still, she used to always keep her distance from Noah

for some reason.

And now, here she was practically saying that she and Liam were what, buddies?

"Why didn't you ever tell me you guys spent time together?" I asked.

Mom looked back at me, guilt written all over her face, "Well, honey, I always thought that you hated Liam. You used to just ignore him whenever he came over to call Noah back home. And sometimes I'd bring him up but you'd get this weird look on your face.

I couldn't blame Mom for making that assumption. I used to do everything in my power to steer clear of Liam.

"It's totally okay, Susie, I don't blame you. My brother could be very convincing in how he portrayed me," Liam said. Although he looked like he was a little sad about this. "I'm just glad I'm getting to clear my name with Ella now."

Mom's eyes went bright, "Oh, I know! I'm glad that Ella finally gets to see the real you!" Mom turned to me then, "And I know, I know, honey, that you said you and Liam aren't an item but I swear, you guys would absolutely make the cutest couple ever."

That was my cue. I couldn't have Mom go on and on about how she hoped Liam and I would become official.

"I guess we better start heading off to the resort now," I said, my voice coming out sounding like a squeak

I walked over and grabbed Liam's wrist as I pulled him off the couch and towards the door

"Let me know if you need me to move anything next week, Susie," Liam said as he headed out the door.

We got to Liam's car and we both slid in. Liam pointed to the back where two huge duffel bags were sitting, "What's that?" I

asked.

"That's all our ski gear. I figured you had probably had to rent the snow gear when you went with Noah. But, not with me. I

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wanted to make sure you had your own gear."

I was touched by Liam's consideration, "Thanks," I said.

"I'm always going to think about what's best for you. Ella. Just know that," Liam said.

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His words made me sick to my stomach. He was always so considerate of me and all I'd wanted the night we'd first gotten together was to take from him. To jump his bones and consume all the pleasure that I knew he could give me.

My cheeks burned at the memory of my behavior that night, "Hey. Um..I just wanted to, you know, apologize for how I acted the night after Noah's party. I know I was a little crazy and forced you to do some things you probably-

Liam put his hand over my mouth. "Trust me, I didn't do anything that I wasn't already dreaming of doing to you."

My body-temperature immediately started to rise. The way he was looking at me, I just knew he was reliving every detail of the night we'd spent together.

Liam started his car, making sure to rev the engine, and zoomed away from our houses.

"I don't know how in the world you can afford this car, Liam. What? Are you a gigolo or something?" I asked.

"Seems like it the way you were screaming my name that night, Liam shot back. My cheeks burned and he laughed. "You're so adorable, Ella. No, I'm not a gigolo. That's not how I got my car. But if I was fucking women for money, how much do you [www.novelworld.com](#)

think I'd be worth?"

Liam glanced my way, a challenge in his eyes. I wanted to shrink back at his blunt words but I knew that I had to do something he wasn't expecting.

"Well, I'd pay you at least \$100,000 to spend the night with you. If I had all the money in the world, that is," I said.

Liam looked shocked by my quick response, "Well damn, big spender. In that case, I'm all yours."

As we continued down the freeway, heading towards the resort, I couldn't help but think about all the rich she-wolves who did have money and would probably be more than happy to spend that money just so they could go to bed with Liam.

Liam had evaded my question, never really giving me an answer. What if what I was saying wasn't actually far from the truth. His Beta father wasn't a rich man and I just couldn't stop wondering how Liam was able to afford his car if his father hadn't given it to him?

Where had he gotten the money? I wished I could push Liam further and get an answer out of him.

But then again, I wasn't sure that I really wanted to hear the truth. If Liam really was giving she-wolves pleasure that was even remotely like what he'd given to me that night, it would absolutely break my heart.

After more than an hour on the road, Liam and I finally made it to the resort. When we walked into the huge chalet, the receptionist at the front desk had a huge smile on her face, "Hello again, Liam, it's good to see you back

Liam handed her the VIP tickets but clearly he didn't even need tickets. He handed her a card with his name on it. He was a VIP member of the resort. I couldn't even believe it.

"Why don't you head to the changing room? We'll meet on the snow when you're done?" Liam said.

In the changing room, I changed into the sleek ski gear Liam had bought for me and felt so freaking cool and sexy in it.

When I stepped out into the snow, I wasn't feeling as confident though. I just kept remembering how horrible Noah had

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been when it came to making me feel safe on the slopes. I'd almost broken my bones so many times and every time I fell, Noah would look at me like I was a huge

bother. [www.novelworld.com](#)

But Liam took my hand as soon as he saw me. Instantly, I felt relieved.

"Remember our bet, Ella. If you have a good time, I have to grant any wish I ask of you." Liam grinned, a seductive look in

his eyes.

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