

Boys Don't Cry: WilyKat

By Shay Leona

Chapter 3: Who's Gonna Drive You Home?

Author's Chapter Notes:

I would say I'm sorry
If I thought that it would change your mind
But I know that this time
I have said too much
Been too unkind

I try to laugh about it
Cover it all up with lies
I try and laugh about it
Hiding the tears in my eyes
Because boys don't cry
Boys don't cry

I would break down at your feet
And beg forgiveness
Plead with you
But I know that it's too late
And now there's nothing I can do

So I try to laugh about it
Cover it all up with lies
I try to laugh about it
Hiding the tears in my eyes
Because boys don't cry

-Boys Don't Cry, The Cure

Wily Kat was in Tygra's lab being lectured on different chemical bonds, but his mind was elsewhere. He was going on his first date tonight and his nerves were on edge.

"So Kat, if the atoms share electrons, what kind of a bond is it?"

Wily Kat didn't respond until he noticed that Tygra stopped talking.

"Oh it's a chemical bond." He blurted out.

Tygra pushed his glasses on the bridge of his nose and looked at Wily Kat inquisitively. "Yes, but what type of chemical bond is it?"

Wily Kat stared at Tygra with a blank face and took a deep breath. “I’m sorry Tygra could you repeat that question again?”

“If the atoms share electrons, what kind of a bond is it?” Tygra repeated a little irritated.

“Oh it’s a covalent bond. Yeah, and if one is given away it’s an ionic bond.”

“That’s correct.” Tygra took off his glasses and sat on a stool next to Wily Kat. “I see that you are a little distracted. Nervous about your big date tonight, huh?”

“Nervous? Nah, I’m not nervous, I’m just terrified that’s all.” Wily Kat said apprehensively twirling his pencil between his fingers.

“Trust me Kat, I’ve been there, I know exactly how it feels to go on that first date.”

“You do? You actually go on dates?” Wily Kat thought

Tygra continued, “You just have to be relaxed and not let it take over your mind, otherwise you’ll show your uneasiness and it will ruin your whole purpose of trying to conceal it.”

Wily Kat nodded his head to Tygra’s advice. “Yeah, I know it’s normal to be nervous but Tygra, man, you have to see this girl she is ridiculously stunning. It’s unreal. I mean, it’s like she’s too good to be true.”

“Oh yeah that can really increase your anxiety level. I’ll tell you what, how about we call it a day, you get the material anyway. Just use this time to prepare for tonight.”

Wily Kat’s eyes lit up, “Oh thank you sooo much Tygra! This will help me a lot you just don’t know!”

Tygra grinned as he wiped off the chalk board. “No problem Kat, do you need anymore advice on dating and women and so forth?”

Wily Kat looked around the room to keep himself from rolling his eyes. *“Oh yeah Tygra, please lecture me since you have so much experience in dating.”* He thought to himself sarcastically.

“Uh, no Tygra, I’m cool, thanks again for ending the lesson early. Bye!” Wily Kat sprinted out of the lab as quickly as he could, so he could start getting ready for his date.

“I’m glad I could give him my great advice on dating. Hopefully it will aid him on his outing tonight.” Tygra said to himself not realizing that his advice really didn’t help at all. He returned to his lab table and started working on his experiment.

Wily Kat walked out of the elevator with a bouquet of roses in his hands. Panthro let him borrow a black buttoned up dress shirt with gray slacks. He walked in the control room where Cheetara and Panthro were looking over New Thundera. They both turned around and looked at the handsome wild cat.

“My, my, my, don’t you look handsome?” Cheetara said as she walked over and gave him a hug.

“Thanks Cheetara,” He looked at Panthro who was examining him with his finger on his chin.

“Wow, Kat you clean up well. You look almost as good as I do in my outfit...ALMOST” Panthro joked. He fixed Wily Kat’s collar and pat him on the back. “Alright, looks like this is it. It’s too late to turn back now.”

Wily Kat mentally cringed as Panthro made it sound like he was getting married. He took his keys out of his pocket and clumsily dropped them. Cheetara picked them up and gave him an understanding smile. “Wily Kat, you really need to relax.” She started massaging his shoulders as Wily Kat entered the room.

“Wow Wily Kat you’re a real babe magnet tonight aren’t ya?” Wily Kat said jokingly.

Everyone laughed but Wily Kat. He didn’t understand why he was so nervous. He knew part of it was because it was his first date, but he was so uneasy he felt like he was going to throw up.

“I just came to wish you good luck on your date. Let me know how it goes.” She gave her brother a comforting hug and he returned it.

“Thank you Kit.” He playfully pushed her and she bumped into Panthro.

“Ow! What was that for?” Wily Kat said rubbing her side.

Wily Kat shrugged and gave her a mischievous grin. “I don’t know, because you were there?”

Wily Kat couldn’t help but laugh. She saw how loosened up he was becoming and it didn’t matter. She was really happy for her brother.

“Yeah whatever, I’m calling it a night. Goodnight everyone, Have fun Kat, but not too much fun.” She said as she left the room.

“Alright Kat I’ll walk you down to the paw hangar. Cheetara, I’ll be right back and I won’t be long. I know you must be ready to go to bed.”

“No I’m fine, take your time. Good luck on your date Wily Kat.” She said as she sat back down in her chair in front of the monitor.

“Thanks Cheetara, I’ll need it.”

Wily Kat and Panthro went down the elevator to the paw hangar. They were talking about things other than the date itself so that it will ease his mind. Panthro opened the paw hangar as Wily Kat got in his car. He put his hands at 10 and 2 on the steering wheel and sighed heavily.

“Well, here I go Panthro, I’ll see you when I get back.” He said starting his car.

“Alright Wily Kat, remember what I told you. Just relax and be yourself”

“Okay, I’ll try, bye” He put the car in reverse and drove away from Cat’s Lair. He had the top down, which allowed the breeze from the night to blow through his mane and take over his worries. “*Tonight’s going to be a good night.*” He thought to himself as he turned onto the main road.

Wily Kat pulled up in the driveway of a small house. The garden looked like it had been abandoned for years. Weeds occupied the flower bed along with a series of spider webs. The wood was rotted and the blue paint on the house had faded. Wily Kat closed his eyes and took a deep breath. Putting the bouquet of flowers behind his back, with a free hand he knocked on the door and waited.

“Just a second!” Ananda said from the other side of the door.

Wily Kat continued to wait and started whistling as he looked at the family of geckos on her porch. A few minutes later Ananda opened the door.

“Hey, I’m sorry I took too long. I was running late.”

“Oh, it’s okay. Here, these are for you.” Wily Kat blushed as he gave her the bouquet of roses.

“Awww, Wily Kat thank you. You are so sweet! Let me go put these in water. I’ll be just a second.”

She closed the door and Wily Kat waited outside for another five minutes. “*I wonder why she didn’t invite me inside. Oh well.*”

She finally came out and locked the door behind her. “Okay I’m ready now! Wow Wily Kat you look great!”

Wily Kat took a good look at Ananda. She curled her hair and had on a sheer, strapless burgundy dress with a split up to her right thigh. She had a translucent shawl that draped over her shoulders. Her eyes had a little hint of eyeliner on with mascara and a light red lip tint on her lips. Wily Kat finally spoke, “Thank you Ananda, you look wonderful.” He hooked his arm

around hers and escorted her to his car. He opened the door for her like a good gentlemen then closed it as she got settled.

“Thank you,” she said as he got in his car on the other side.

“No problem.” He started the engine and turned on his lights.

“Wow this is a nice car. I’ve never seen one like it. Where did you get it?”

“Oh Panthro made it. It was an 18th birthday present for me and my sister. Kit has a red one just like it.” He backed out of the driveway and put the car in first gear.

“Wow, Panthro is quite the mechanic, huh?”

“The best on Thundera. I wish I had his mechanical skills. He’s a genius.” Wily Kat looked over and saw Ananda covering herself up with her shawl. “Oh I’m sorry Ananda let me put the top up.”

“No it’s okay, keep it down it’s refreshing.”

“Are you sure, you seem to be cold.”

“Nah, I’m fine. I love it when the breeze goes through my hair. It makes me feel so free and invincible.”

“That’s exactly how I feel about it.” He looked over and smiled at Ananda who had her eyes closed and freely let the gust of wind flow freely through her hair. *“I still can’t get over the fact of how gorgeous she is. She’s seems to be so free-spirited.”* Wily Kat shifted gears and headed out the main road to downtown.

Wily Kat and Ananda walked arm and arm in the ritzy, five-star restaurant. He walked over the female hostess standing at the podium.

“Hello, do you have reservations?” The lioness said without looking up.

“Yes, Wily Kat party of two.” He said softly.

The lioness looked up slowly, “Wily Kat, the Thundercat?” her face lit up, “Oh by Thundera! Please, follow me.” She gushed.

Ananda looked over and saw Wily Kat’s face blushing as the hostess grabbed two menus. She clutched on to his arm tighter and he turned to her seeing the sweet smile she gave him and he returned it. They followed the hostess to a private room in the back of the restaurant. They sat across the table from each other and situated themselves as the hostess handed them their menus.

“Someone will be with you in just a moment. Thank you for dining at the Moonlight Palace and enjoy your meal! ”

Ananda looked at the front of her menu and saw the cover which had moons and stars on it. “Wow, that hostess was kind of over the top wasn’t she?”

Wily Kat opened his menu. “Tell me about it. It amazes me how people’s attitudes change when they find out I’m a Thundercat.”

A male ocelot came to the table with a white long-sleeved buttoned up shirt with a bow tie and a long black apron tied around his waist. “Hello, my name is Ocelano and I’ll be your server for the evening. What can I get you two to drink?”

Wily Kat bit his lip as he pondered over the beverage menu. “I’d just like a glass of water.” He looked over at Ananda.

“I’d like the same, thank you.”

“Okay I’ll be back with those. Again, my name is Ocelano and if you have any questions please let me know.”

Both nodded their heads and smiled at their waiter. They both glanced at their menus unsure of what they wanted.

“Have you eaten here before?” Ananda said looking over the menu diligently.

“Yeah, a long time ago when we had the celebration of Mumm-ra’s defeat. I remember how much I like the atmosphere and how it’s themed room by room. We’re in the starlight room.”

“It’s really beautiful.”

The waiter returned with their waters and took out a notepad. “Okay, have you guys decided on what you wanted?”

“Yes, I’ll have a soup of the day for an appetizer. And for an entrée I’d like to get the Chicken Parmesan.” Wily Kat said looking at Ananda again who was looking at him as well.

“I’d like to get a dinner salad to start off with ranch dressing. Then I’d like to get the Sirloin Steak smothered in a white wine sauce with sauteed mushrooms cooked medium rare, with mashed potatoes instead of grilled vegetables, and extra gravy on the side.” She closed her menu nonchalantly and handed it to the waiter. She looked over at Wily Kat who raised his eyebrow and grinned. “What?” she asked innocently.

“Nothing, nothing at all...” Wily Kat chided trying to hide his smile but didn’t succeed.

“Look, I’m going to tell you this right now, I LOVE to eat. I am not one of those prissy girls who order a salad and that’s all they eat. When I’m hungry, I’m hungry.” She said blatantly.

“What? I didn’t say anything.” Wily Kat put his hands up in defense and laughed, “It’s cool. It’s amazing how a girl your size can eat all of that. Kit is the same way! She’ll eat a three course meal and snack all day and won’t gain an ounce. It’s like ‘Where does your food go?’”

“Well she’s probably like me, I burn it off by running. I love to run. Usually I jog at night before I go to bed then in the morning when I wake up.”

“Really? Cheetara also likes to run every morning before most of us awaken.”

“Yeah, my mom said that when I was little before that I learned to run before I could walk.”

“That’s interesting. So, tell me more about your family background.” Wily Kat said as he began eating the soup the waiter just brought out.

Ananda became a little uneasy, and cleared her throat, “Well uh, my mom was a secretary at an attorney’s office before she had me. My dad was a paralegal at the firm and my mom fell in love with him. They got engaged and had me shortly after they got married. My dad died when Thundera exploded when I was 12. He made sure that my mother, my grandmother and I were able to get on the spaceship and evacuate. He was one of the many who were left behind. We flew to a planet called Dionysus. My mom died two years later from a rare disease that takes over your Circulatory System. My grandmother and I lived there ‘till I was about 16 then--.” Ananda’s voice cracked.

“Ananda, are you okay?” Wily Kat asked in concern.

“Yeah, I’m, I’m okay, I’m just getting a headache. Where’s the restroom?” Ananda said massaging her temples.

“It’s over there behind that booth. Are you sure that you are okay? Do you need me to take you home?”

“No, Kat absolutely not! I’ll be fine...” Her head continued to throb even more. She got up and walked over to the bathroom.

Baffled, Wily Kat looked at his soup and all of a sudden lost his appetite. *“I wonder what happened to her, I hope I didn’t say the wrong thing.”* He played with his food and picked up some of the soup with his spoon then poured it back in the bowl. He continued the motion until she came back 10 minutes later. He stood up and pulled out her chair. “Is everything okay?” He asked as she sat down.

“Yeah, I was just having a migraine I get those every now and then. My mom had the same problem. I’ll be fine.”

Another server came and cleared the appetizer plates, while their waiter placed their entrées on the table. He asked if they needed anything else and they both shook their heads and he left them to eat their meal.

“So, Wily Kat, I see that you have your Thundercat insignia on. Do you always have to wear it?”

“Yeah, we have to wear it in public so that people will know we are Thundercats, just in case trouble occurs, then people can recognize who we are. We also need it just in case Lion-o summons us.”

“How is it living with all of those people?” Ananda questioned cutting her steak.

“It’s really not that bad I mean it’s all I really know. I’ve been living with them since I was about 10. We are like a close knit family. We’ve all experienced so much together it’s ridiculous.”

“Yeah, I’ve heard some of the stories. You guys are like superheroes.”

The two continued to talk throughout the meal, both becoming smitten with each other. The waiter cleared their plates and offered them dessert which both declined. The waiter dropped off the bill. Wily Kat reached for his wallet as Ananda reached for her purse.

“No Ananda, I got it.”

“Are you sure, I know my meal had to have been a lot.”

“No, it actually wasn’t and even if it was, it’s only right that I pay. I invited you to have dinner with me, so you can put your purse away.” He said giving her a charming smile.

The smile made her heart melt, “Awww, thank you. You’re such a gentleman. I owe you one.”

“You don’t owe me anything. You allowing me to take you out is enough for me.” He affirmed genuinely.

He put his credit card on the tip tray and the waiter came by to pick it up. The waiter came back and gave the tip tray to Wily Kat. Wily Kat thanked the guy for his good service, left a tip and signed the credit card. He gave it to the waiter as they were leaving and the waiter thanked him generously.

In the car, Ananda and Wily Kat conversed and joked about different subjects. Wily Kat felt comfortable around her. He came to the realization that he was really infatuated with her. They pulled up in front of her house and he walked her to the front door.

“I had a really great time tonight.” He said looking down at his feet.

“I did too. I can’t wait ‘till we go out again.”

“Will next week be okay? Same day, same time?” Wily Kat said looking into her green eyes.

“I’d love to.” She said looking around anticipating on what to do next. “Well, I guess, I’ll see you then.”

“Yeah, call me tomorrow. Goodnight Ananda.”

Ananda quickly leaned over and gave Wily Kat a kiss, barely sweeping over his lips. He stroked her face and kissed her back. She put her arms around his neck and kissed him more passionately. She explored his mouth with her tongue and he did the same. Wily Kat felt the blood flow in his body increase. They both stopped kissing each other and looked at each other dreamily. Ananda wiped the corners of her mouth and licked her lips.

“Goodnight,” She said as she walked in her house leaving Wily Kat in a daze.

He caught his breath and leaned against the door. “Great Jaga....” he walked to his car with a smirk on his face and drove back home to Cat’s Lair.

The past three weeks, Wily Kat and Ananda saw each other at least four times a week. They were moving faster than normal but he didn’t care. Even Wily Kat, who was all for him dating Ananda was starting to question the intensity of their relationship that just stared. Wily Kat ignored her comments because he didn’t see anything wrong with it. He loved being around her. The only thing that bothered him was that he still hadn’t met her grandmother.

On the way home from the movies, Wily Kat and Ananda were all smiles and kisses. They walked to the front door to her house and Ananda hesitantly searched for her keys. Wily Kat distracted her with a passionate kiss.

“Kat! I need to find my keys, so I can get inside”

“I know, that’s why I’m kissing you. I don’t want you to leave.” He whispered kissing her neck.

She pulled out her keys and dangled them in front of his face. “Okay I found them, I gotta go inside now.”

Wily Kat sighed. “You know I haven’t been inside your house and I’ve been dating you for what almost a month now?”

Ananda’s facial expression changed to a strong disturbed look, “Yeah, I didn’t realize that, uh, you wanna come in for a little bit?”

“Well if you don’t want me to that’s fine, I just—“

“No, I’m sorry, come on in. I’m warning you, it’s not all that great.” She unlocked the door and turned on the light to the living room. The house was quaint and small but it was decorated nicely. The appearance was better on the inside than the outside.

“Your house isn’t that bad at all. You made it sound like everything would be hanging upside down.”

Ananda nodded meekly to Wily Kat’s comment. He sat down on the love seat next to a coffee table with a photo album. He looked through it and found many pictures of Ananda when she was cub.

“Oh you were just so cute.” Wily Kat said as he turned the page.

“Yeah, Yeah whatever.” Ananda sat next to Wily Kat as he came upon a picture of a female leopard with spots holding a newborn.

“Wow, she’s gorgeous! Is that your mom?”

“Yeah, I was only two weeks old when she took that picture.”

“I see where you get your beauty from.” Wily Kat continued to look through the album and didn’t see a picture of her dad. He turned to a picture of a younger Ananda, her mom and an elderly leopard in order from youngest to oldest.

“That’s one of my favorite pictures in there. That’s my grandmother.” Her voice seemed to be cracking. Wily Kat didn’t notice her eyes tearing up.

“Where is your grandmother? Is she never home?” He looked at Ananda and saw a tear falling down her cheek. “Ananda what’s the matter?” He put a comforting arm around her shoulders.

“No, my grandmother is never home!” She began sobbing. Wily Kat held her close to his chest, perplexed by her statement.

“It’s okay, let it out” He said scratching her back. “Please talk to me, honey. You’ll feel a lot better.”

“I can’t Wily Kat, I just can’t!” she got up from his grasp and paced back and forth.

Wily Kat stood up and grabbed her arms, “Why not! Does she neglect you? Is she abusive? What is it? Damn it Ananda, Please tell me!” Wily Kat demanded, startled by the enraged tone in his own voice.

“Yes, she did neglect me! Okay she DID!” She shouted flailing her arms uncontrollably and wiping her tears that wouldn’t stop falling from her eyes.

Wily Kat stood there dumbfounded and let go of her arms. “She ***DID*** neglect you, what do you mean?”

“My grandmother left me because she passed away. I’ve been living here on my own for the past three months.” Ananda dropped to her knees and bawled hysterically with her face in her hands.

Wily Kat stood in front of his newly found companion completely helpless. Not knowing what to say or do, he pulled her close to his stomach and let his shirt soak up all her tears and sorrows.

“Great Jaga, please help me...”