



86 Never knew this would be such a small world.

Jason felt Emyr's tension and stood up at his request. "What are you guys up to? I am getting all suspicious now. You better explain to me well later, or else —" He was mid-sentence when a familiar voice cut in, freezing them both —one with surprise, the other one with dread. 1

"Dr. Clark?"

Jason recognized that voice all too well —to the point where, instead of turning to check who had arrived, he turned to Aiden, gazing at him in disbelief. "Aiden, you couldn't have..."

But Aiden simply shrugged, confirming all of Jason's complicated suspicions with one simple gesture. His gaze showed no sympathy, not even in the slightest.

Jason couldn't believe it. He knew his friend could be cruel and heartless at times, but he never imagined this would be one of those moments. How could he? 3



On the other hand, Arwen didn't know what she should conclude with all this. She had just returned home when she saw her attending doctor frowning at Emyr. Not only did Jason's presence surprise her, but the casual air around him did too. It was as if this wasn't his first time here, nor was it their first conversation.

Then, could it be that they had known each other for a long time?

Could it be that Aiden and Dr. Clark were long-time acquaintances?

Her gaze shifted between Emyr and Aiden, trying to decipher Emyr's guilty expression. He looked like someone caught red-handed. But what was he hiding?

Her eyes darted toward Aiden. Yet, he sat there so casually, as if he had nothing to hide at all. Why was he so at ease when the other two were clearly rattled?

Aiden leaned slightly to the side and asked casually, "You are back?" He sounded like a househusband who had been waiting for all this while for his wife to arrive.



When Arwen heard him speak that way, she couldn't help but smile. The suspicion still lingered, but she decided to tend to her husband first.

Walking in, she nodded. "Hhm-hm ... Did I keep you waiting long?"

Aiden closed the file in his hand and shook his head, "You didn't. I just got back," he replied.

And Emyr was not even surprised anymore. He was becoming accustomed to seeing this starkly different side of his boss around the lady. But what truly satisfied him was Dr. Clark's changing expression —finally, someone shared his bewilderment. 2

Jason was dumbfounded. Although he had known about his friend's longing-standing feelings for a certain girl, nothing had prepared him to see this side of Aiden. Was this the same man who had always spoken as though each syllable cost thousands? Now, around Arwen, he was making casual small talk as if it was the most natural thing in the world. 2

Jason turned to look at Emyr, who was grinning at him. And that's when he realized this 'new'



wasn't actually new. Aiden had been like this since ever. It was just that he didn't know. Or maybe, he never got the chance to know until today.

"You were working?" Arwen asked, her gaze settling on the file and laptop in front of Aiden.

Aiden glanced at them and then shook his head. "Nothing important."

And those two words felt like a slap to Jason. **NOTHING IMPORTANT!** *Brother, you were going through those papers like they were the key to another world of wealth! And now you are saying they are nothing important? Was the work really unimportant, or was he the one who didn't matter? Because earlier, when he had rushed in, it sure looked like the work in Aiden's hand was of utmost value. Yet now that Arwen walked in, her value overtook everything else's.*

As if Emyr could read Jason's thoughts, he let out a chuckle, despite trying to hold it in. And soon, all three gazes turned to him.

"I am sorry, I didn't mean to laugh. I just couldn't hold it back," Emyr said, though Jason glared at him dangerously.



"What's so funny, Emyr? Care to share? Maybe we would love to laugh too."

Emyr looked at Jason and wisely chose not to engage. Shaking his head, he simply dodged, "Oh, it's about a company client, Dr. Clark. You wouldn't know."

But Jason wasn't fooled. He made a mental note to deal with Emyr later. Right now, something more pressing demanded his attention — Arwen's gaze, which had shifted back at him and was now locked on him.

He smiled at her. "Ms. Quinn, you are here as well. What a surprise, I —" I

Before he could finish, Aiden stood up beside Arwen and announced, "You can address her as Mrs. Winslow now, Jason."

And that statement felt oddly familiar.

The next time you see her, address her as Mrs. Winslow. The title of Mrs. Foster neither suits her nor is it meant for her.

Jason remembered well the last time he had heard Aiden say those words. Does he have to



86 Never knew this would be such a sm...



rub it in like that?

Forcing a smile, Jason glanced at Aiden while speaking. "Oh, you guys got married. Congratulations! Only if I had known earlier, I would have brought a present on my way here. It's such a surprise," his tone slightly strained.

He shot a quick pointed look at Aiden before refocusing on Arwen, his expression softening, "But anyway, it's fine. Now that I know, I will make sure to get you something next time," he added, a light chuckle escaping as if he were trying to break the tension in the room.

Jason tried to seem casual, but his gaze betrayed him as it darted back to Aiden, the silent message clear: *This isn't over.*

Arwen, who had always been observant, didn't fail to notice this. Of course, she had seen the small exchange between Aiden and Jason's gazes. And she could feel all her suspicions from earlier getting confirmed.

Still, she didn't ask them about it aloud. Instead, looking between Aiden and Jason, she simply said, "Never knew this would be such a small world. Have you two known each other for a



86 Never knew this would be such a sm...



long time?"

“

Creation is hard, cheer me up!

*Hope you all liked the chapter. Send
your votes, love and support. Also, do...*

—

Scarlet_Shine

Creator's Thoughts

