

Chapter 101

I looked back and couldn't believe what I saw. Patrick and Alexander were heading our way, and Alexander was carrying my son in his arms. Peter had such a happy little face and was waving at everyone who passed by, making them sigh and comment on what a beautiful little boy he was.

When they reached my desk, my little one wiggled his arms and shouted:

"Mommy! I came to get you!"

My eyes welled up with tears as I took my son in my arms, covering him with kisses.

"I hope you don't mind that I picked up Peter and sent Lygia home," Alexander said with a smile.

"Of course not, my love!" I moved closer, and he gave me a soft kiss on the lips.

"Mommy, Uncle Patrick gave me this, look!" My son showed me a package full of candies, lollipops, and chocolates he had received.

"Oh really?! And did you say thank you?" I asked my little one.

"Yes, mommy."

"Very good!" I gave him another little kiss. "Thank you, Patrick."

"Don't mention it, Cat. This kid is amazing!" Patrick said, making my heart swell with pride.

"Well, well, what do we have here?" Maurice approached with a smile and extended his hand to my son, "Hello, young man."



"Hi," Peter flashed a huge smile and took Maurice's hand. "Want some candy?" He offered right away.

"No thank you, young man. Catherine, is this your son?" Maurice asked me, and I nodded. "What a handsome little guy! He looks just like his father," he said, looking between Peter and Alexander, who had a huge smile on his face.

"My son is beautiful indeed, thank you, Maurice," Alexander replied without letting me correct the misunderstanding.

"You two have been spending a lot of time on my floor," Maurice said playfully to Alexander and Patrick. "I hope you're not planning to steal my two favorite employees."

"For now, Maurice, just one of them, but you never know," Alexander said with a laugh.

"I'll have to ask you for a job too if you take both," Maurice joked.

"I think Henry would be upset with us," Patrick replied, laughing.

We said goodbye, I gathered my things, and we left the building. We met Melissa, Fred, Henry, and Samantha at the entrance, and the guys suggested taking us out to dinner. Rick and Tess would meet us at the restaurant.

After dinner, Alexander came to my apartment. Mel went to Fred's place. Alexander was sitting at the foot of the bed, giving me a wonderful foot massage. Suddenly, he asked:

"So, angel, when are you coming back to Group Miller?"

"Alexander, I haven't decided that yet."



"What do you mean? You've forgiven me, you're back with me. Just come back to be near me every day, Catherine." Alexander spoke as if I was missing something obvious.

"My love, I still don't know if I want to come back. I love working at Lynx World, I really like my colleagues, I'm doing great there." I tried to make him understand.

"But you'll be better with me." He was starting to get grumpy.

"But we're fine like this. Why do we need to work together?" I asked, genuinely wanting to understand why it was so important to him.

"Cat, I want to be surrounded by people I trust. Sam's already there. Celeste can be let go. I need you by my side." He tried to justify his insistence. "Besides, the audit is progressing, and we already have a lot of evidence, and thanks to Margaret, I discovered other things involving my personal life and my parents that are being investigated."

"What else did you discover?" I asked intrigued.

"Probably my parents' accident wasn't an accident at all - the helicopter might have been sabotaged." He revealed with a sadness in his eyes that broke my heart. "Margaret overheard Johnson talking to the investigating officer, saying that I wanted the investigation closed, and later she heard him telling Celeste that he paid a fortune to bury the investigation."

"Alexander, that's extremely serious!" I sat up in bed, shocked by this revelation.

"Yes, it is. She also heard my father arguing with Johnson the day before the accident, saying he was going to fire him." I was sitting there open-

mouthed listening to him tell me these things. "She also told me that Celeste was informing Anna Caroline about all my movements, that's why she showed up almost everywhere I was, and why she appeared at the company that day. Celeste set it up knowing that Mariana had already instructed you not to let anyone in without my authorization. She was hoping I would fire you."

"But why would Celeste want me fired? I had just started working there." I didn't understand.

"Celeste wanted the assistant position, and Mariana had dismissed her for not meeting the requirements. I think as my assistant she would have had much more access to information. Celeste has been Johnson's mistress for at least ten years." Alexander spoke, and I was horrified by how low these two could go.

"So Celeste passes information to Johnson. Of course he's involved in the company fraud." I concluded.

"He might be the mastermind behind the fraudulent operation." Alexander speculated, but I felt something was still missing.

"And what else did Margaret tell you?" I asked, feeling growing anxiety.

"Margaret knows everything in that company. She told me a lot. But there's one more thing." He seemed worried about how to tell me about this other thing.

"What is it?" I encouraged him to speak.

"Cat, when my parents died, I had met someone, someone who turned my world upside down very quickly." He cleared his throat. "Too quickly, even. But this woman disappeared, and I tried everything to find her, I



even hired three detectives, but they all took away any hope of finding her. The last one was about a year ago." 1

"Mariana mentioned this woman briefly. Said you gave up on love after that." I commented.

"Until you came along." He looked at me and smiled. "But it seems Johnson manipulated the investigations too, paid the detectives to make me give up, telling me it would be impossible."

When he finished speaking, something stirred inside me. What if he still loved this woman and now wanted to find her? What if I was just a replacement and he didn't truly love me?

"Catherine, look at me. Listen very carefully." Alexander spoke firmly while holding my hands. "I love you! That woman was a crazy story that was left behind the moment I heard your voice on the phone. So please, don't start putting ideas in your head. I'm not going to look for her again, but I wanted you to know about this. I don't want anyone twisting things for you."

But it was impossible not to feel insecure. Alexander noticed this. He took my face in his hands and kissed me, slowly and passionately, as if telling me through that kiss that he loved me. Then he made love to me for a long time, assuring my body that he belonged to me. We fell asleep in each other's arms once again.