

Chapter 148

Patrick's POV

Alexander was euphoric. Yesterday at the end of the day, Rick and I convinced him to get rid of Liz before talking to Cat. Liz had been calling him persistently, and we thought it would be a problem. Rick told him to resolve it before causing Catherine any more suffering. In the end, he agreed.

Rick's sisters said they would have the answer he wanted by the end of today, as it was the day Liz's mother would be at the salon. So we had to wait. Today I had a lot of work piled up, so the day would pass quickly.

When I saw Cat sitting at her desk, I was very happy; she seemed much better. I exchanged a few quick words with her and went to my office. Soon the phone rang. Samantha told me it was Dr. Flavian Moreno, and asked to put the call through.

"Flavian, my friend, how are you?"

"Hi, Patrick. I'm a bit embarrassed, man, the job you asked for took longer than I expected. The lady is very discreet."

"Man, I had completely forgotten about that. In the end, we discovered she was set up and we've already resolved it. She's even back working with us."

Flavian was my friend, a detective in Bellwood. When that mess happened with Catherine and Alexander fired her, I asked Flavian to investigate her, but I had completely forgotten about it.

"Ah, man, I'm glad you resolved it because I was just going to tell you that the lady, besides being beautiful, is the most honest and virtuous



person I've ever seen in my life," Flavian said admiringly.

"We discovered that too. I'm sorry I didn't call to tell you we had already resolved it, but things have been hectic around here," I said, embarrassed for having forgotten about my friend.

"No need to apologize. It was actually interesting! It served as an investigation techniques exercise for my men. The lady is very discreet, doesn't even have social media. She comes from a humble family, but her parents are excellent and very honorable people."

"Good to know!" I commented happily.

"I'll send you the report anyway for your files. But, you know, there's one thing that really doesn't make sense," Flavian was thinking aloud.

"What do you mean, Flavian?" My curiosity was piqued.

"How does such a responsible, straight-laced young woman go to a masquerade ball and get pregnant by a guy whose identity she doesn't know and whose face she never saw?"

I jumped out of my chair, feeling my body go cold.

"What are you saying, Flavian?" I asked in a whisper.

"That's right. About three years ago, at the annual masquerade ball here in town, you know. She went and hooked up with some guy she'd never seen before. It became the talk of the town when she turned up pregnant. Her ex-boyfriend, what a jerk, spilled all the details to one of my officers at a bar." Flavian explained.

"Flavian, I need that report now!" I said urgently.



"What's wrong, Patrick? Something's not right? You're not going to fire her because of this, are you?" Flavian asked worriedly.

"No, Flavian, but I think I know who the father of that child is." I commented, shocked. 3

"I'll send it to you. When you're sure, tell me how this story ends." Flavian requested. "Done. Just sent it. Oh, and there's even a photo of her at the Ball. Beautiful! Friend, I've got to go. Come by sometime so we can party a bit."

"Sure. Flavian, thank you so much!" I said goodbye and hung up.

I downloaded the report about Catherine. When I got to the information about the ball, I couldn't believe it. If I was already crying, imagine when I told him. I printed everything and put it in a folder, and just as I was getting up, the phone rang again. Catherine informed me that Alan wanted to see me.

"Patrick, I'm sorry for showing up without notice, but I need your help." Alan was nervous and agitated.

"I guess it's urgent, right?" I gestured to the chair in front of me for him to sit down.

"Very, and I don't know what to do. It's a bombshell." Alan said.

"Another one?" I couldn't believe we'd have another problem. "What is it now?"

"I don't know how to tell this to Alexander, that's why I need your help." Alan was very worried.

"Alan, what is it? Is it about his parents' accident?"

"Not yet. It's about the woman he was looking for. The report arrived."
Alan handed me the folder.

I took the folder with trembling hands and read the report, tears in my eyes, thinking about how much harm Johnson had done by preventing this investigation. I cleared my throat and said to Alan:

"We need to talk to my friend. But I think it's better not to do this here at the company. Let's go to my house. I'll gather our friends there. He'll need them. And there's one more thing, when that mess with Catherine happened, I asked a police friend of mine to check things out, look what he discovered. I just received it."

Alan scanned through the report I showed him, and when he finished reading, he was even more stunned. We agreed to meet at my house. He left with the reports and headed there. I called Henry and Fred, asking them to drop everything and meet us at my house, as it was extremely urgent. I left my office and informed Cat that I wouldn't be back. I went to Alexander's office and already told Rick we were heading to my house.

"Alexander, we need to go to my house right now. It's an emergency."

"What do you mean, Patrick? What happened?" Alexander took his eyes off the computer and turned his attention to me. "Are you okay? You seem agitated."

"No, Alex, I'm not okay. Come on. Drop everything and let's go to my house now," I insisted.

"Patrick, don't scare me," Alexander pleaded. "Is Cat okay?"

"Yes, she's working calmly and peacefully in her office. Just come on," I insisted again.



"Alright, let's go," Alexander stood up and followed me out.

"We'll take my driver, he'll come back later to pick up Cat," I informed him. "Daniel, take care of Catherine. Don't leave her alone. Is the other security guard in her building?"

"Yes, sir. You can relax, I won't let them get near her," Daniel replied, referring to Johnson and his family and Liz.

"Perfect. Thank you." We entered the elevator, and Alexander looked at me worriedly. "Alan has a new and urgent report."

"Okay. But you're really disturbed," Alexander said, studying my face.

"You'll know soon enough," I said.

We spent the rest of the journey in silence. When we arrived at my house, Alan had already set up a video call with Mari on the laptop screen. Like Henry, Rick, Fred, and Alexander, she had no idea what was going on. 1



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