

Chapter 158

The next thing I remember is jolting awake on Alexander's office couch. Looking around, I saw Samantha holding my hand, Margaret coming in with a tea tray, Patrick speaking nervously on the phone, Rick also on his cell phone, and Alexander desperately yelling at Daniel, the head of security.

"Alexander, she's awake," Samantha called, and he rushed over.

"My angel, I've already called the police. Lygia and the girls are on their way. It seems Dennis and Daniel were the traitors. They've both disappeared," Alexander explained through tears. "I've also asked Dr. Molina to come check on you."

"Alexander, my son, he's just a little boy..." I was panicking.


"We'll find him safe and sound, my angel. We will," Alexander said, looking into my eyes. "I need you to stay calm for our baby in your belly, but I don't want to take my eyes off you. Let me handle finding Peter."

"This won't knock you out, dear, but it will calm you down," Margaret offered me the tea.

It wasn't long before Alexander's office was packed. Melissa, Virginia, and Tess arrived with Henry. Fred came with his uncle and Lygia. Lygia was in shock, crying and begging for forgiveness. Dr. Molina examined me and gave me a relaxant.

"Cat, this medicine is just to keep you calm. I'm worried about your blood pressure fluctuations. This isn't good for your pregnancy," Dr. Molina explained. "You should go home and rest."

"No way. I want to know what they find out about my son," I was

adamant. 

"But this room is too busy. It will agitate you," the doctor insisted.

"My angel, go to Patrick's office with the girls. I'll come see you soon and promise to keep you updated on everything," Alexander said, holding my face. "I'm sending Lygia to our house, she's very upset and needs rest because of the head injury, and Jorge will take care of her there."

I stood up and told Lygia to calm down, that it wasn't her fault. Dr. Molina helped me to Patrick's office and lie down, then returned to Alexander's office, telling the girls to call him if needed. The girls sat down and we started talking, I told them about the house and how happy we were, and about Lygia's call. Samantha went to the reception to cancel all of Patrick's and Alexander's appointments and receive people who were arriving.

Alan entered the room and came to me, with a sad expression on his face, and said:

"Sweetheart, forgive me! I never thought this could happen. I trusted the security team."

"Alan, it's not your fault. No one could have imagined this," I tried to reassure him.

"Oh, honey, I should have anticipated it, given the scale of what they're doing here, I should have seen it coming. I'll do everything I can to help find Peter. Mariana has already arranged a flight, she's boarding soon and will arrive in the early morning. She asked me to tell you she'll be with you shortly." It was comforting to know Mari was coming.

Alan kissed my hands and left. Shortly after, Rick came in with a tray and

placed it on my lap.

"I know it's difficult and you probably have no appetite, but we need to take care of your little baby too. Dr. Molina said you need to eat. Please make an effort."

"Oh, Rick, thank you. Yes, I'll eat something. I need to stay strong for both my children," I said, genuinely willing to eat. I couldn't be irresponsible with my pregnancy and health.

"Girls, we've set up a brunch in the reception area, please get something to eat! Would you like me to prepare trays for you?" Rick asked the girls.

"No, sweetie, we'll go there," Tess thanked him. "And is there any news?"

"Yes, a police force is already set up. The officers are talking to Alexander, they've already spoken with Lygia, and Patrick's driver took her to Alexander's apartment. Jorge is monitoring the phone and everything there, and he'll take care of Lygia."

We thanked him, and Rick returned to Alexander's office, which had apparently turned into some sort of command center. Time kept passing with no news. Alexander entered the room with a coffee cup in his hands.

"Sweetheart, how are you?" I gave him a weak smile as he kissed my forehead and sat beside me. "They found the abandoned car on a dirt road at the city limits. They're examining it for evidence. The police are certain another car was waiting."

"What now?" I asked, already numbed by the medication I'd taken.

"Now we're looking under every rock, and the entire security team is being interrogated. Alan is digging into everyone's background. He feels

guilty, just like Lygia." Alexander looked exhausted.

"But neither of them is to blame," I said, looking at him.

"I know. We're investigating the Johnson family and Celeste. I called Farias and asked him to talk to Liz and see if she knows anything. Can you think of anyone else?" Alexander asked, and I shook my head no.

Suddenly, Alexander's eyes fixed on a spot near the window. Melissa was sitting there motionless, staring out the window.

"How long has she been like this?" he asked.

"For hours," Virginia replied. "I don't know what else to do."

Alexander went to Melissa and knelt beside her, said something to her, and she sobbed and hugged him. I understood she was as devastated as we were.

Rick came in again, accompanied by four maintenance men. They set up ten folding beds around the room. Margaret came in right after and put sheets on each bed, then added pillows.

"Girls, if we're staying here, you need to rest," Rick ordered. "Tess, your boss gave you the week off, so you're staying with us. Melissa and Virginia, I don't need to tell you that Henry transferred you here until everything's resolved."

"Guys, you don't need to stay," I said, trying not to disrupt their lives.

"I have nowhere else I'd rather be," Tess smiled at me.

"None of us is leaving before Peter shows up," Virginia stated.

"It wouldn't be any different, Cat. Come on, lie down for a bit." Rick helped me stand up, but I needed to use the bathroom.

"Rick, call the Molinas, please," Alexander requested.

I went to him and my friend and hugged her, saying everything would be okay. Dr. Molina examined her and gave her some medicine and advice. Fred put her in one of the beds, and I lay down in the bed next to her, and we held hands.

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