



## Chapter 175

When I opened the door, Alexander's office was immediately invaded by our friends.

"Ah, I want to pamper my little one! Is he asleep?" Melissa made a sad face looking at Peter in Alexander's lap.

"For god's sake, Catherine, close that door." Fred said entering in a hurry.

"What's the matter, Fred? What's the problem?" I asked without understanding when he locked the door behind him.

"The problem is my parents, your parents, Mel's parents, Alexander's foster parents, Patrick's parents, Henry's mother and even Jorge, Lygia and little Margaret." Fred spoke with a face of someone who was terrified.

"Alexander's foster parents?" I asked without understanding.

"Mari and Alan." Fred explained making me smile.

"Your parents are here, Patrick? And your mother, Henry?" Alexander was curious.

"Yeah, man, they found out from Fred's father what was happening and caught a flight here as soon as they could, they wanted to be with you. But I won't lie, they drive me crazy!" Patrick told.

"My mother the same thing, she was at a SPA with a group of ladies in who knows where and came running back. But she also wanted to take the opportunity to meet Samantha and I don't know if that was a good idea." Henry walked from one side to the other.

"What's the problem, Henry? You're a scoundrel, but your mother is not

to blame and I really liked her." Samantha spoke very angry.

"The problem is that my mother doesn't always help me." Henry faced her.

"You don't help yourself, you whore!" Melissa corrected him and made us all laugh.

"Okay, but why are you guys hiding from the parent group?" Alexander asked.

"That's not a parent group, Alexander, they're the horsemen of the apocalypse! They are a terrorist group with a well-drawn and infallible plan to put each of us in line." Fred was terrified and we all laughed at him.

"Look, Fernando is exaggerating a little bit, but I'll confess to you, even I got a little anxious with them." Manu spoke and we could imagine what was going on outside.

"Manu, my mother wanted to put food in my mouth, because she thinks I'm thin! Look at me, I'm not thin!" Fred spoke agitated. In fact, he was athletic and had muscles, but he wasn't thin.

"And how did you manage to escape from them?" Alexander asked.

"Ah, my friend, I arranged a wonderful lunch for them in the meeting room." Rick spoke delivering the tactic they used. "Thank god my parents and Tess's parents live in Houston and we didn't tell them anything, otherwise, they would be here too."

"So, since the parents are at this wonderful lunch, let's take advantage of the moment, because I think they'll be on our feet for the rest of the week.

"I said, eliciting protests from everyone.



"Not even dreaming, Catherine. I'm already preparing the jet to take the Bellwood crowd back." Patrick complained.

"And I've already bought a luxury cruise for the elderly for my mom to spend at least a month away from causing me problems," Henry also complained.

"But all of that will be postponed. We need them to stay until Sunday, at least," I said seriously.

"Are you crazy, Catherine! It took me a long time to get transferred here just so my mom wouldn't drive me insane. And you want her to invade my life here until Sunday?" Fred blinked.

"Look, Cat, I never thought I'd say this to you, but it's them or me!" Melissa spoke very seriously and I couldn't even hold back my laughter.

"You guys are so dramatic. But they are staying and you all are too," I said, creating suspense.

"Come on, Catherine, convince us or I'm getting on that seniors cruise," Henry assured.

"You'd get kicked off the cruise for trying to hit on the grannies," Samantha teased Henry, who looked at her as if in pain. "So, Cat, spill it, why do they have to stay?"

"Alexander and I are getting married on Saturday!" I said at once and heard shouts and applause in the room.

"Great, you woke up my boy. Calm down son, it's just your crazy godmother," Alexander said, soothing Peter who woke up startled.

"Oh, little one, sorry godmommy!" Melissa said, taking the opportunity



to take him from Alexander's lap. "Let go, clown," she said firmly to Alexander when he tried to complain about having to hand over Peter.

"Finally! One more in the 'married club'," Tess celebrated. "I was already thinking about asking Rick for a divorce, to be a girlfriend again."

"But why Saturday?" Sylvia asked.

"Someone who understands me!" Alexander smiled. "I wanted it to be today, but Cat wants a few days to organize everything and buy the dress."  
"

"Wow, I'm already having millions of ideas!" Virginia smiled. "Friend, you're taking the rest of the week off. We're going to help you organize a dream wedding. Right, girls?" And they all confirmed.

"That's perfect, because I've already cleared your schedule," Samantha told me.

"If you want, you can take the senior citizens' cruise as your honeymoon trip," Henry joked, making everyone burst into laughter.

I loved these people. They were wonderful friends I could count on at any moment. They were part of the family, a family full of love that we were building.

"But I ask that you don't tell the parents yet. I want to formally propose to Catherine's parents. Rick, can you organize a dinner?" Alexander was full of ideas, and it moved me deeply.

"Alexander, you don't need to do that," I said.

"I do need to. And I'll do this for your parents. Also, I want everything to be done traditionally," Alexander explained.



"Okay, dinner tomorrow, because today we're all very tired. And we'll all be there. I wouldn't miss it for anything," Rick said.

"Let's have it at my house," Patrick quickly got excited.

"No," I said. "Let's have it at our house. What do you think, my love?"

"I think it's perfect!" Alexander smiled.

"But Cat, it's a lot of people. I know the apartment is big, but..." Rick was saying.

"I'm not talking about the apartment. I'm talking about the house that belonged to Alexander's parents." When I said that, the guys looked at Alexander as if they were worried.

"We were there Monday morning. That's where I want to live with my family and see my children grow up," Alexander said emotionally.

"You went inside?" Patrick asked, knowing that Alexander hadn't been in the house anymore, and Alexander nodded.

"Then it's decided. You'll have an engagement dinner fit for kings," Patrick declared.

"But let us organize the dinner, boys," Tess said.

"No way, you'll monopolize the wedding. The engagement is ours!" Rick wouldn't accept any discussion.

"Girls, you have the rest of the week off," Henry informed Melissa, Virginia, and Manu. "Just clear my schedule too, Mel."

"I already did that, you man-whore," Melissa said, using the new "



affectionate" nickname.

It didn't take long for the room to be invaded by the group of parents who were worried that we didn't go to lunch, and they pushed us into the room where lunch was being served.

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