## Chapter 24

I entered the house with my boss's last words echoing in my mind. He would keep teasing me. What did he really want from me? Today had been a roller coaster. Would things ever settle down in that office and become normal?

I went to check on my son, who was already sleeping like an angel, clutching his teddy bear. I thought about asking Mel if we could spend Sunday at the park with him – that would be nice. I passed by my friend's room, who was also asleep, and grabbed the baby monitor.

I took a shower to wash away all the day's stress, fell into bed, and drifted off to sleep thinking about my boss. I must be going crazy.

I woke up and got my little one ready to drop him off at daycare before heading out. He always woke up in such a good mood, smiling at me and chattering about how much he loved his school. While I was getting him dressed, he told me a thousand things about everything he was discovering. I smiled like a fool – it was so wonderful to see my son growing up happy.

I got myself ready and went to the kitchen, where I found Mel had already prepared our coffee.

"Good morning, bestie, how are you? I want to know everything that happened yesterday. Your life is better than a soap opera!" She said with a laugh.

"Mel, I'll tell you everything tonight, but just to give you an idea - my boss was the devil himself yesterday."

"Uh-huh. And by any chance, honey, didn't you provoke the devil? I

know you, Cat. You went to work early and left me a note saying you were going to war."

"And I did, wearing that black dress you gave me for my birthday last year and red heels."

My friend's eyes widened, her mouth hanging open.

"If that man didn't jump you yesterday, I'll change my name."

"No need for that. But I'll tell you tonight – I have to go drop Peter at daycare. Are you coming with us?"

"Hmm, yeah." She said, taking a final sip of coffee. "But I'll be dying of curiosity until tonight."

"I want to hear about your day too - your job seems more fun than mine."

"You have no idea, my boss is quite a character. But tell me, do you think wearing that pantsuit will help you go unnoticed? If your intention is to hide, sorry, but it won't work. Your boobs look amazing in that shirt."

I rolled my eyes at her. After being too exposed yesterday, I decided to wear a charcoal gray pantsuit with a blazer to hide a bit today, paired with a white shirt. I hoped Mel was wrong, but the shirt was indeed quite form—fitting. Damn, there's no time to change now.

Thursday started quietly. My boss had a meeting with the financial director, so he wouldn't show up for a while. I was getting through my scheduled tasks when I got a message from Mari saying she'd be arriving a bit late.

I was reviewing a contract when my boss burst into the office looking disgruntled and went straight to his room, asking me to follow him.

"Good morning, Miss Vergara. Have you reviewed the Global contract yet?"

Back to 'Miss Vergara' - he was in stress mode today.

"Good morning. Yes, sir, I just finished and sent it to you by email. I've also checked the shipment to Beijing, and everything is proceeding well – the cargo is being loaded onto the ship and leaves tonight. I verified all documentation, and everything's in order. I've sent you an email report about that as well."

"Excellent! Today we have the meeting with Henry from Lynx World after lunch. I want you there taking notes of everything. Has our financial report meeting been scheduled?"

"Yes, Mr. Miller, scheduled and confirmed for five o'clock. It will be here in your office, as per your instructions."

"Perfect, Has Mariana arrived yet?"

"No, she notified that she'd be late, something to handle with her move. Anything else, Mr. Miller?"

"No. That's all, you may go."

I was already leaving when I heard his voice in an amused tone:

"Wearing long pants and a blazer won't help you hide, Catherine. I've already seen practically everything underneath." I froze where I stood and turned around slowly, watching him close the distance between us. " And what I Once again, I returned to my desk in shock. He was such a jerk! At noon, Rick walked into my office all cheerful.

"Pretty woman, you won't believe what my wife did. Want to grab lunch?

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When we returned from lunch, I was feeling much lighter, having had a great time listening to Rick's stories – his wife seemed amazing. Before we each went back to our offices, he told me he'd send an email with details about Mari's farewell party that he and Patrick were organizing for the following week.

At two o'clock, we went to the meeting room, and I was surprised to see Mel there. We hugged, and she introduced me to her boss.

"Melissa, I'll have to pick a bone with your father. When he asked me to recommend Ms. Catherine for the position here at Miller, he didn't tell me she was a goddess!"

I smiled awkwardly and heard Mr. Grumpy behind me:

"Martin, keep your hands and eyes off my assistant. Ms. Catherine isn't like those women you usually hang around with!"

I noticed Henry Martin's amused glance shift from me to my boss.

"Well, well, the untouchable Alexander Miller is jealous over you, Ms.

Catherine! How interesting! But, my dear friend Alexander, I'm not sure I can resist staying away from such a beauty."

"You'd better stay away, Henry." Patrick walked in saying. "You wouldn't want to provoke our friend's wrath." He smiled mockingly. "But who's this beauty with you, Henry?"

"Don't even try, Patrick. This is Melissa Larson, and besides being Oliver's daughter, she has a boyfriend who looks like he stepped out of a fairy tale. In short: untouchable like Ms. Catherine – no wonder they're best friends," Henry answered, rolling his eyes.

"What a shame! But you two could introduce me to a friend who's as beautiful as you are, right? I've been feeling so lonely..." Patrick made such a pitiful face that everyone started laughing.

"Good Lord, Patrick, you have no boundaries!" my boss exclaimed in exasperation.

"Unfortunately, we don't have another super hot and cool friend like us to introduce you to, Mr. Guzman. I'm sorry," Mel replied, laughing.

"Well, now that you gentlemen can keep your hormones in check, can we start working?" Alexander said, ending the chitchat, but we still heard Patrick's complaint.

"Aw, but we were having fun."

We all laughed. The meeting went very well in a friendly atmosphere. Afterward, I said goodbye to my friend, and when I returned to my desk, I only had time to answer some emails before the next meeting about the financial report.

