



Chapter 73

The weekend had been intense, and I started the week already tired. But I had decided to try to forgive Alexander. The girls had plans; according to them, he needed to suffer a bit more before I took him back, so he would learn his lesson and not hurt me again.

I arrived at the office and went to my desk. The place was already bustling with activity. I liked this job – it was easy-going, fun, with a great team, though it wasn't in my field. I had worked so hard in college, and now it seemed my degree would just collect dust. That made me feel a bit melancholic. But I had a son to raise, so I couldn't waste time feeling sorry for myself.

While turning on my computer, I saw a coffee mug land on my desk. I looked up to see Virginia's huge smile directed at me.

"Cat, aren't you ashamed of being so pretty?" I smiled at her comment. "The guys in the department are drooling over you. My brother is also smitten with you, and if I didn't know you were in love with Alexander, I'd totally support you becoming my sister-in-law."

"As if, Vi. They're just curious because I'm the new girl. How are you? Did you get a taste of that eye candy yesterday when he drove you home?" I asked, taking a sip of coffee.

"Oh, girl, that eye candy looks delicious. But I haven't risked it yet. After you guys told me he's a player, I got scared." She sat down and rested her chin on her hand.

"Good morning, ladies!" Mr. Maurice said as he approached.

"Good morning, boss," we replied in unison.



"Catherine, I know you asked to leave early today for your doctor's appointment, but could you possibly reschedule it? I hate to ask, but the client from the two o'clock meeting just called to reschedule for five, and I couldn't move it to tomorrow. As you know, it's an important client, and you need to be in this meeting." He looked genuinely embarrassed to ask.

"No problem, boss! I'll reschedule my appointment. Let's close this deal!" I said with a smile to reassure him.

"Thank you, dear. You can reschedule for whenever you want and take the afternoon off on your appointment day." He said before returning to his office.

I grabbed my phone and called my doctor's office.

"Doctor's office, good morning."

"Good morning, Sylvia. How are you? This is Catherine Vergara."

"Good morning, Catherine. I was actually about to call you to confirm your appointment today."

"Well, Sylvia, I'm calling because I need to reschedule. Is that okay?"

"Of course not a problem, Catherine. I can actually fit in a new patient who was waiting for a cancellation to move up their appointment. Just a moment while I check when I can fit you in again."

I waited for Sylvia to tell me when she could fit me in, but a commotion at the entrance of the floor caught my attention. Two men were walking in with two enormous flower arrangements; one was made of tulips, and I could already guess who it was from. The department staff started buzzing, trying to guess who the flowers were for, and the comments only grew louder as all eyes followed the arrangements. I just wanted to



crawl into a hole.

"Miss Catherine Vergara?" one of the men stopped at my desk holding that tulip arrangement.

"Catherine, I can fit you in on..." Sylvia had come back on the line, but I wanted to get this over-the-top flower delivery scene over with quickly.

"Sylvia, can I call you back in a bit?"

"Of course, dear. I'll wait for your call."

I quickly said goodbye to the secretary and hung up the phone, looking at the man who was staring at me with that huge vase of flowers.

"That's me, Catherine Vergara."

"Great! These are for you, can I leave them here?" He asked, setting the vase on my desk when I nodded. "Could you sign here, please?" I signed mechanically while the man said, "This is one of the biggest arrangements I've ever delivered. Either he's trying to win you over, or he messed up big time and wants forgiveness, but either way, he must love you very much."

That comment made me smile. The delivery guy said goodbye and left. I stared at the enormous flower arrangement that took up practically my entire desk. When I looked up, Virginia was just as stunned as I was, with another arrangement, just as large as mine, sitting on her desk.

"Can you believe Patrick sent me this?" she said in disbelief. "This arrangement is taller than me, Cat. How am I supposed to get this home?"

"I'm wondering the same thing," I replied with a smile.



My phone rang on my desk, and when I answered, Mel was ecstatic.

"Cat, my prince sent me a huge flower arrangement, and I mean HUGE!"

"Fred too?" I asked, starting to suspect they had planned this together.

"What do you mean?" Melissa asked, confused.

"Hold on." I took a photo with my phone and sent it to her, and asked Virginia to do the same. "Check your phone."

"Oh, those idiots! I knew Fred was in on it with them. I wonder if Sam and Tess got them too? I'll message our group."

Melissa hung up, and it wasn't long before messages from Tess and Samantha came through. We had all received giant flower arrangements at work. These men were playing hardball.

The arrangements were huge and flashy. We all became the center of attention throughout the day, which irritated us quite a bit. Couldn't they just be normal and send a simple bouquet?

Each of us called our men – they would have to pick us up from work. It was impossible to go home carrying that garden in our arms, and leaving it at the office would only fuel more gossip.

"My love, you have no idea how happy I am to hear from you," I heard Alexander's voice as he answered my call on the first ring. I could also hear Patrick in the background answering Virginia's call.

"Alexander, have you lost your mind? Did you really need to send an entire garden to my workplace? It took up my whole desk," I said, slightly annoyed.



"My angel, I just wanted to spoil you," he replied so calmly, as if it wasn't a big deal.

"Alexander, I can't even carry this vase. How am I supposed to take this home? Virginia and I have become the target of comments and jokes from our colleagues." I heard him laugh.

"Well, now everyone knows you two have boyfriends. Don't worry, I'll pick you up and take you home today. I'll also get to play with Peter for a bit - I'm really missing my little buddy."

When he mentioned my son, my irritation softened, but I almost let an important detail slip by. Fortunately, I remembered in time.

"And who said you're my boyfriend?" I challenged.

"Oh, Catherine, you've been mine since you first heard my voice, even when you didn't know who I was." He made me remember when I started working for him, when he was traveling and called looking for Mariana.

"Don't you think you're exaggerating?"

"Not at all, my love. You're mine just as I'm yours. And even though you're upset, you've never stopped being mine. I love you, Cat, and you'll forgive me - it's just a matter of time. But you're still mine, for now, my girlfriend."

"My God, you're so arrogant!" I heard his smile through the phone.

"My angel, I'd love to spend all day talking to you, but unfortunately, I have to go. I'll pick you up from work, love. I'm missing you terribly."

He hung up, and there I was, smiling like an idiot at my phone screen.