

Chapter 99

Alexander's POV

I dropped Catherine off at Lynx World and headed to my company. We had a wonderful weekend. Her parents were great people and welcomed me so warmly that I felt like part of the family. That meant a lot to me. Sure, we had that unpleasant incident with her ex, and her cousin was just jealous. But overall, our weekend was amazing.

She came back to me, and that filled my heart almost to bursting with happiness. And Peter made everything even more perfect. If my parents were alive, they would have been charmed by Catherine and loved Peter as if he were truly their grandson.

Thinking about my parents still caused me infinite pain and longing, especially after learning that the accident that killed them might have been intentional - that knowledge was like a knife to my chest. I needed to find out the truth. Alan was taking care of everything, and until he had information, I would have to wait and control my anxiety. This waiting was making me restless.

When I arrived at my company, I had an idea in mind. I called Samantha to my office and closed the door.

"Sam, you already know that Catherine and I are back together. But she doesn't want to work with me again. She says it'll remind her of all the bad things that happened."

"Of course, Alexander, she won't feel comfortable, especially with that couch," Samantha pointed at the couch in my office.

"Do you think if I change things here, redecorate everything, she'd feel



better?" I asked anxiously.

"She'd feel better if we burned that couch," Samantha said.

"Samantha, can you think about the whole picture and not just the couch?"

"I looked at her, and she was smiling.

"Look, Alexander, I think the change is a good start. It's not a guarantee, but it will make her feel more comfortable in a new environment, without the bad memories."

"Great! I'd like you to take charge of this. Can you do that?"

"Me? But Alexander, why don't you hire an interior designer?" Samantha asked, surprised.

"Because you have great taste, and I trust you'll do a good job. The budget is unlimited, spend whatever you need. Arrange for me to use another office on this floor until everything is ready, and I want your desk near my office to assist me directly during this period. How many days do you think you'll need?"

"A week, since I'll have the walls painted. I'm already full of ideas," Samantha said excitedly, making me smile.

"Perfect! Now tell me what we have scheduled for today, and then I'll clear out so you can start, and I'll stay with Patrick until you set me up somewhere else," I said, opening my laptop.

After reviewing my schedule with Samantha, I grabbed my laptop and some folders and headed to Patrick's office. When I reached reception, I turned to Samantha in front of Celeste and handed her my office key, saying:



"Only you can come into my office. And whoever you assign to do what I asked. And you can't ask Celeste for help since she needs to stay at reception while you're busy." Samantha knew I did that to prevent Celeste from sticking her nose where it didn't belong.

I went into Patrick's office, but I still heard that rattlesnake Celeste eagerly asking Samantha what I had requested, and I heard Samantha snap back "none of your business," which made me smile.

"Brother, can I hang out in your office for a few hours?" I asked Patrick.

"Of course, man, you know I'd share an office with you anytime," Patrick replied enthusiastically.

"If we shared an office, we wouldn't get any work done. It'd be just like back in school, just shooting the breeze all day." I smiled, remembering those good old school days.

"That's true. But what's the occasion for gracing us with your presence?" Patrick was curious.

"I'm renovating my office and Cat's. I want her to come back, but she says no because she doesn't want to be reminded of everything that happened. I put Sam in charge of redecorating everything."

"Man, that's brilliant! Now I want to redecorate too," Patrick said, excited like a kid.

"We might as well throw that snake Celeste out and redo the reception area too," Rick added.

"Not a bad idea, Rick. Besides, we'll need to come up with an excuse to bring Catherine back. How's Samantha doing at work?" I asked, curious about Sam's performance.



"She's fantastic! Very competent, smart, picks things up quickly. And she's good with people," Rick evaluated. "She even won over Mr. Nobrega, who's our client but a real grouch. He actually smiled at her."

"I don't think we need Celeste anymore," Patrick confirmed.

"Great, but I'll keep her on this week since Sam will be busy with my renovation," I decided. "I don't like it, but it's better this way. Plus, I still need to figure out how to fire her without anyone suspecting the real reason."

"Now tell us about Catherine," Patrick was curious.

"I'll tell you about the weekend at lunch. Henry's coming, so I can tell everyone at once." I smiled like a kid remembering my weekend with my Catherine.

They already knew we were back together because I'd kept my friends updated via text, of course, but they wanted the details. I was very happy; now I just needed my Catherine to come back to work with me.

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