



S2-Chapter 2

Henry's POV

When I arrived at the office on Friday, Julia, my secretary, came running after me right away. Julia was excellent at her job and happily married, therefore out of my reach. She'd been with me long enough to take certain liberties and kept things strictly professional between us - not that I ever hit on her. Then again, Julia was nearly sixty.

"Mr. Martin, there's a million pending matters on your desk and all these messages." Julia handed me about twenty messages held together with a paper clip.

"What time do these people start working, five in the morning?" I said, looking at her, already stressed.

"Eight, but you're half an hour late, so..." Julia said as she walked out. "Have a great day!"

Ever since my last executive assistant, Miss Camila, resigned last week, I'd been swamped. I needed to get my act together - fucking my assistant on the desk after hours hadn't been a good idea. Again!

The next day she came in all flirty, and I had to shut it down, saying it would be better to keep things purely professional between us. She got furious, broke some things in my office, and quit.

I was seriously considering hiring a male assistant, like Patrick who had Rick. It would be smarter since I wouldn't fall into temptation and could keep the assistant for more than six months. It was hell having to repeat interviews and hire someone new.

I had already returned several calls and replied to many emails, hadn't



even had time for lunch, but my desk was still piled with pending matters. I felt like I was in the middle of chaos.

My cell phone vibrated on the desk, and when I checked the screen, it was a message from Mariana thanking me for recommending Miss Catherine Vergara, whom she had just hired as Alexander's new assistant. I was tempted to ask what the woman was like, but I followed Patrick's advice and just replied saying I was happy to hear the news.

Julia came into the office and placed a plate with a sandwich and a glass of watermelon juice on my desk.

"Eat! You still have many pending matters to resolve, you can't afford to end up in the hospital because you didn't eat." Julia spoke like a stern mother.

"Thank you, Julia. You're a beacon in my life!" I smiled at her as she left my office smiling.

The phone rang on my desk, and when I answered, my secretary said it was Oliver Larson. I always took his calls, no matter how chaotic my desk was, so I asked her to put him through.

"Oliver, my friend! How are you? You still owe me a round of golf!" I greeted Oliver cheerfully.

Oliver was my father's friend and had become a great friend to me. When I took over the company, it was Oliver Larson's advice that guided me through the business world and kept me from sinking. I was only eighteen then, just starting college.

"I'm doing well, son. I'll be visiting Paradise Port soon, and we'll play that round of golf." He laughed. He was a very polite and always good-



humored man. Unlike my father, he was an exemplary husband.

"I heard Alexander hired the woman you recommended. From what Mariana told me, she's very capable and highly qualified," I commented, remembering that the last time I met Oliver, he had asked me for a position for the woman. Since I still had an assistant then, I spoke with Mariana, who was looking to replace someone at Group Miller.

"I'm certain Alexander won't regret it. Catherine is a very determined and professional young woman," Oliver confirmed.

"Please tell me she's ugly," I joked with Oliver.

"Actually, quite the opposite, son. She's one of the most beautiful women I've ever seen!" Oliver said with a hearty laugh. "But she's not for you. Or Patrick. She's a very serious person."

"Oliver, why didn't you tell me she was beautiful when you asked me to find her a position?" I asked, laughing.

"Because I know you, Henry. And Catherine needs a job that lasts more than six months. And even though I'm sure she wouldn't fall for your advances, she would put you in your place and quit."

"So she's perfect for Alexander, we're matching two workaholics who only think about work." I smiled. "But now you need to find me an assistant too, mine just quit."

"Are you serious? For the reason I'm thinking?" He asked.

"Yeah. I think I'm going to hire a man..."

"Look, Henry, I called to ask you for another favor, but I think we can help each other. My daughter is Catherine's best friend, they're like



sisters. And my daughter decided to move with her friend, so she needs a job there."

"Is your daughter ugly?" I didn't know Oliver's daughter very well, last time I saw her was about ten years ago, when she was still a girl with braces. But Oliver burst out laughing.

"She looks just like her mother!" I was screwed because Oliver's wife was very beautiful.

"My friend, I don't want to lose your friendship," I said with a smile.

"And you won't! My daughter doesn't fall for men like you. Melissa is too peculiar." Oliver was confident about his daughter. "She has a boyfriend, great guy, and she's crazy about him. You don't stand a chance - as she says herself, her boyfriend is a prince. But she'll keep you in line, I can guarantee that."

I stopped to think. Running one of the biggest tech companies in the market was already too much work. Lynx World, my company, had expanded considerably since I took over the business. I really needed an assistant who could help me with work and keep me in check. 1

"Will she last more than six months in the job?" I asked, still doubtful.

"And I won't interfere in your working relationship!" Oliver assured.

"Tell her to send me an email, you have the address. I'll interview her."