

S2 Chapter 12

Henry's POV

"Henry, let's call it a day." Melissa rushed back after answering her phone.

"Is my assistant already showing signs of fatigue? I thought you were tougher than that." I couldn't resist teasing her.

"Don't try to be funny with me today, Henry. I don't have time." I noticed Melissa seemed worried.

"What's wrong, Melissa? Any problems?" I asked, genuinely concerned.

"Seems like it, I just need to get home." Melissa sighed as she finished gathering her things from my desk.

"Alright. If you need anything, let me know. I'm here for you."

"Thanks, Henry! See you tomorrow."

Melissa rushed out, and I was curious. I tried calling Patrick, but he didn't answer, only sending a message saying he'd call me back soon. I went home to rest, the week was just beginning, but it would be as hectic as the previous one.

Patrick never called, which I found strange. The next day, when Melissa arrived, I was waiting for her by the elevators, very pleased with myself for getting to the office before her. My smile dropped when I looked at her and saw her grumpy face with dark circles under her eyes from what seemed like a sleepless night.

"What happened, Melissa?" I asked, imagining terrible things.



"That clown Alexander happened! I'm going to kick his ass." Melissa was boiling with rage. "Oh, and that idiot Patrick too. I hope I don't have to kick your ass as well, Henry!" She stormed past me toward her office.

Before she could sit down, I pulled her into my office and asked Julia for two coffees. I sat with her in the armchairs in my office, and when Julia brought us the coffees, I saw Melissa huff and look at me like she wanted to kill me.

"Melissa, what happened?" I asked again.

"Oh, are you telling me your little friends haven't told you yet?" She mocked.

"No, nobody told me anything. I even called Patrick yesterday, but he didn't answer. What is it?"

I listened carefully as Melissa told me that Alexander had fired Catherine, suspecting she was leaking confidential information and plotting against him, besides insulting her in many ways.

"Melissa, I've known Alexander for a long time, honestly, he doesn't behave like this. He's always very measured and rational." I said and saw Melissa beginning to open her mouth to respond. "Let's do this, tell Catherine to come work with me. I don't have as good a position to offer her right now, but I'll hire her and when a better position opens up, I'll promote her."

"What do you mean you're going to hire her, Henry?" Melissa glanced at me sideways.

"Look, there's an opening in sales, you've already met Maurice. He's a great person, and his department has a reputation for being the best place in the company - they say it's like Disneyland. I think it's a good



place for Catherine, a positive environment with a laid-back boss. It'll help her recover from the rough situation she's been through. What do you think?"

"You're really going to do this?" Melissa asked doubtfully.

"And why wouldn't I if I can?" I asked, not understanding her concern.

"Because Alexander and Patrick are your friends. And because Alexander guaranteed that Cat wouldn't work in the city anymore," Melissa argued.

"They're my friends, but they're both idiots! Melissa, when your father recommended Catherine to me, he spoke wonders about her. I trust your father's judgment. That's why I doubt Cat betrayed Alexander's trust. And he'll figure that out and regret it." I was being sincere. Something about that story didn't seem right to me. "Let Catherine know she starts tomorrow. Now, let's get to work - I'm already missing you cracking the whip at me."

"Getting spoiled, Henry?" Melissa smiled and teased me.

"You bet I am! And I'm hurt - I got here before you today and didn't even get praised." I pretended to be hurt, and Melissa laughed.

"You'll get a cookie later!"

During lunch, Patrick finally called and told me everything that was happening. Honestly, they were both idiots. It was obvious to me that Catherine hadn't betrayed Alexander's trust. But Patrick assured me they would investigate. I warned him that Catherine would be working with me and that I wouldn't accept any interference with that. The next day, Catherine started working at my company, and I guaranteed her all my support.



I was in my office when I heard Melissa speaking angrily in her room. I got up, and when I reached the door, I saw Alexander getting a proper lecture from Melissa. I was also irritated with him for being unfair to Catherine. I stopped at the door; he had his back to me, so I said,

"Well, I'd love to know what kind of nonsense you pulled with Catherine, Alexander. I'll tell you, I barely know her, but I got very solid references about her, and I assume you did the same background check when you hired her, so I don't understand what happened." I assessed my friend and noticed something was very wrong. "Let's go to my office. Melissa, you too."

In my office, I heard everything Alexander had to say and everything Melissa had to say to him. My friend had really messed up badly. But I saw the regret in his eyes and the desperation. He would do anything for Catherine's forgiveness. I convinced Melissa that it would be better if they talked, and I asked Maurice to send Catherine to my office.

Melissa and I went to the meeting room and left Alexander and Catherine talking. Not much time passed before Catherine came in crying. I offered my support and told her and Melissa to go home and rest.

I went back to my office, because just as Catherine needed her friend, I was sure Alexander needed my support. And that's what I did. We left my office, met with Patrick at my house, and got drunk. I showed up at the company on Thursday looking like a zombie.

"What's that alcohol stench, Henry?" Melissa started complaining right away. "I told you I didn't want to see you hungover any day!"

"Melissa, it was for a noble cause. I was supporting a friend, a friend who's suffering," I said, feeling my head throbbing.

"A friend who's suffering because he's an idiot!" Melissa said.



"But who's remorseful," I said. "Now come on, I need you to change our schedule for today."

"And why would I do that?"

"Because we need to fit in a meeting for the afternoon. Sales will present the new system to Miller Group." Melissa looked at me suspiciously, but I had promised Alexander I would help.

"What are you plotting, Henry?"

"Nothing at all, but it's a deal with some pretty high figures. So, let's prioritize it."

The meeting was great for the company - Alexander closed the deal, but it was terrible for him and Catherine. That night, Alexander himself called me to go drinking.

I was dying to go to the mall and talk to my beautiful goddess. Thankfully, I had set up the note-passing scheme with Enzo, and he gave me good news every day.

But the week had been crazy. Melissa had scheduled many meetings, and there was also a lot of paperwork to be done. I realized that I had really neglected things at my company. And Alexander needed support too.

It was already Friday, and I had a monster hangover. Melissa had just finished chewing me out because I arrived late and hungover.

"How nice, huh, Henry! Should I have to forbid you from seeing your little friends during the week?" Melissa glared at me while handing me two pills and a glass of water.

"Mel, don't fight with me. It's Alexander's fault, he's evil, he called me to drink last night, and I had to support my friend," I said from the couch



where I was sprawled.

"Look, Henry, I'll give you the morning to recover, but you're working in the afternoon." Melissa stormed out, and I stayed lying there on that couch all morning.

By the end of the day, I was feeling much better. But Friday wasn't very productive.

"Mel, want to work tomorrow? I'll pay you extra," I suggested, wanting to make up for the time I lost being hungover.

"No chance, Henry. My prince arrives tomorrow," Melissa said with a huge smile on her face.

"Oh right, I had forgotten! When do I get to meet him?"

"We'll arrange something later."

"Mel, how's Catherine doing? Is she enjoying the work?"

"Very much. She's already making friends and is more upbeat." Melissa looked at me with a big smile. "You know you've earned a lot of points with me, right?! That means when you need me, I'll help you."

"Good to know."

"Well, I'm going, and you - don't show up hungover on Monday," Melissa warned me.

On Saturday, I called my nephew and arranged to meet him at the mall. I needed to see my goddess and was going to take him shopping as promised for delivering the notes during the week.

I arrived at the mall and before meeting my nephew, I passed by the



women's clothing store to see if my goddess was there, and I had a more than welcome surprise. I saw Melissa and Catherine inside being helped by my goddess. What luck!

I entered the store and stopped behind a dress rack. My goddess and Melissa were looking at the fitting room, waiting for Catherine to come out. And I was looking my goddess up and down. They hadn't seen me yet, and when Catherine came out of the fitting room wearing a tiny dress, Melissa asked her to twirl around, and I approached.

Catherine looked stunning in that tiny dress, and I couldn't help but look. When she stopped facing Melissa, she saw me and became very embarrassed.

"Well, Catherine, no wonder Alexander is desperate to get you back! You look outrageously hot in that dress," I teased Catherine, drawing all three women's attention to me.

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