

S2 Chapter 82

Manuela's POV

"Flavian, can someone explain to me what kind of show was that? Actually, all of you, care to explain?" I said angrily, wanting to kill them all.

"Manu, I lost my cool, okay? We're already dealing with Joseph threatening Cat, and then another lunatic shows up? I really lost it!" Flavian tried to justify himself.

"And you think it's her fault? Seriously, Flavian? What kind of disgusting macho jerk are you?" I was getting more and more upset. "And all of you? This was an ambush in a hostile environment that pressured a woman who's already being victimized by her damn ex-boyfriend, and you still harass her like this?"

"I didn't say anything," Patrick raised his hands defensively.

"Exactly, you didn't say anything. You were complicit in this whole mess," I complained. They were all looking at me without saying a word.

The elevator opened again and Mariana came out, clearly worried.

"Can someone tell me why Samantha just resigned? HR just sent me her settlement forecast scheduled for two days from now," Mariana questioned, and everyone remained silent.

"Go ahead, tough guys, tell Mari about the mess you've made," I said, grabbing my purse. "I'm going after Sam, and if you want to fire me, Alexander, I don't care. As for you, Flavian, we'll talk later."

"This turned into a nuclear bomb!" I heard Patrick say.

"I'm wondering why I let you guys take the lead on this mess," Alexander added.

I got into the elevator and went down to Virginia's floor. I rushed to her, and she immediately noticed something was wrong.

"What's wrong, Manu? You don't look good," Virginia asked right away.

"Vi, do you think Alan would let you off today? Sam needs us," I tried to sound calm.

"Seems serious. Give me a minute." Virginia went to Alan's office and came back with her purse. "Where's Sam?"

"Probably at home," I said, almost crying from anger.

"What happened, Manu?" Virginia noticed how nervous I was.

"Are you driving?" She nodded. "Then let's go. On the way, I'll call Tess and Mel and tell all three of you at once."

That was what I did. We got in the car and I made the video call, telling the girls what those idiots had done, and they were just as outraged as I was.

"I thought it was weird when my sweetie asked me about this yesterday," Virginia commented.

"Rick asked me too," Tess said.

"Fred asked me as well. Henry was the one who told them, but it seems like these clueless guys took everything out of context," Melissa explained. "Let's not tell Catherine because she can't get upset. Let's meet at Sam's building, Tess and I are on our way."

When we arrived at the building, the doorman told us Sam wasn't home. That was strange - I was sure this was where she'd go.

"I'll call Pearl, maybe Sam went there," I said.

"Just be careful not to worry her mom," Tess cautioned.

I called Pearl with some small talk about how she was doing, and as we chatted, she mentioned that Sam had only spent the weekend at her place and that she already missed her daughter. So Sam wasn't with her.

"Guys, she might have just gone for a walk," Melissa suggested. "Let's stay here and keep an eye on the building. There's a bakery across the street - we can sit there, and we'll know when she comes back."

We tried calling several times and sent countless messages. It wasn't until the end of the day that Sam finally sent us a message saying she was okay but wanted to be alone for a while. There was no point in pushing - she wouldn't talk to us.

Virginia dropped me off at Flavian's apartment, where he was already waiting for me. When I walked in, he was pacing around the living room and came to hug me. I stepped back.

"I don't want you to touch me right now," I said honestly. "Actually, I didn't even want to see you right now."

"Manu, stop this," Flavian said in a calm tone.

"Seriously, Flavian, what you did to Sam today was horrible. You practically blamed her for what her idiot ex-boyfriend does," I complained.

"Manu, that wasn't my intention, but I went crazy at the possibility of some lunatic hurting you and I lost it. But Sam also got too offended - it

wasn't that serious."

"I can't believe you're saying this."

"Manu, I'm a detective, I see a lot of this. These kinds of guys are crazy - they don't just stop at threats. I worry about you and I lost my cool, but I'll apologize to Samantha."

"I highly doubt she'll listen to you, since she's not even talking to her friends because of you guys," I huffed. "Let me tell you something, detective - you don't know her story. You didn't even bother to listen to her. Sam is being threatened, she needs support and security, and what did you do? You took away her support system with your crappy attitude."

"Manu, I'm sorry!" Flavian seemed remorseful.

"I'm not the one you need to apologize to," I was tired. "I'm going to sleep in one of the other rooms. Don't come near me until you fix the mess you made!"