

Chapter 25. Interlude 2033

In the virtual world of the VSR Elenore stopped reading and dejectedly stared at the book with her hands on her knees. She always felt this way when she got to this part of the book.

“Is everything all right Miss?” Daisy asked noticing Elenore’s mood.

Elenore turned to Daisy and responded. “I’m all right Daisy, it’s been awhile since I’ve read this book and I forgot there are quite a number of triggers for me.”

“Would you like me set up a trigger warning for the next time you read this book?” Daisy asked in a cheerful soothing voice.

Elenore pondered somewhat then answered. “I gather a small trigger warning will do. So yes Daisy.”

“Yes Miss.” Daisy said cheerfully and a pop up box appeared in front of Elenore. She looked it over, nodded and pressed the ok button. Then the pop up disappeared.

“Thank you Daisy.”

“You’re welcome Miss.” Daisy replied as Elenore lay down on the ground.

“Would like me to close the book Miss?” Daisy asked in her polite and helpful tone.

“No, leave it be. I’m taking a slight break from reading right now. I’ll return to reading in a moment.”

“Yes Miss. “

“Miss.”

“Yes Daisy?” Elenore said with a little frustration but she knew Daisy was only doing her programmed function.

“A Doctor Sammy Leeds wishes to log into this VSR, do you wish to allow entry Miss?”

Elenore sat up in a hurry. “Let her in Daisy.”

“Yes Miss.” And a short long haired young woman dressed in a doctor’s robe and uniform appeared next to Elenore.

“Hello, Elenore how are you feeling?” Sammy asked as she looked over the scene.

“Hello Sammy. I’m fine thanks, though I am worried about cyberbrain or brain damage.”

“You have nothing to worry about; both your cyber and organic brain are fine. I came in to check on you and to deliver a couple of messages from your family.”

“Oh. Is there anything wrong?” Elenore asked with an eyebrow raised in concern.

“Nothing wrong. Your son came through the surgery. He’s resting in his room at the moment.”

Elenore lay back down on the ground with a big sigh. “He did it anyways. I wish he could’ve waited till he was out of high school.”

Sammy raised an eyebrow in return. “I thought you would be happy for him.”

“Oh I am but I’m worried that someone would attack him because he’s transgendered.”

Sammy frowned. “Now you’re just being over protective again Elenore. Besides, Nafrece is one of the more trans- friendly counties in Europe.”

“I haven’t heard from Susan in awhile and Elsa still hasn’t been found. Victor is my youngest, so can you blame me for being protective?”

“Being protective of your children is a sign of a good parent but there have been times when you have gone overboard.”

Elenore stared at the virtual sky for a bit, and then she sighed. “I suppose you’re right.”

“Vanessa said she’s trying to get in touch with Susan. I can’t say anything about Elsa...” Sammy said trying to not to open any psychological wounds.

Elenore smiled as she sat back up. “It’s okay Sammy. I’m hoping that Vanessa does get a hold of her. Was that the second message?”

“No, the other was from Margaret asking if you’re going to show up to her birthday party.”

Elenore deeply sighed. “This is the tenth time she’s asked me. If she calls you again tell I said I’m coming and make sure she sends you an invitation.”

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“Oh she did, but I’m on duty that day and I had to decline. But I’ll tell her when she calls.” Sammy giggled which got an ironic giggle out Elenore as well.

“Once I get out of the mold and check I’ll go see Victor and give him my love and support.”

“Good. I have to finish my rounds but I’ll see you when you get out of the mold. Bye Elenore.”

Elenore smiled and waved as Sammy disappeared. “Bye Sammy.”

In the family waiting room Madlax came in and saw Vanessa talking to Meg on a vid-pad. Before she got to Vanessa, Meg hung up.

Vanessa turned to see Madlax. “Hi Madlax. Here to see Elenore? She’s still in the mold.”

“Hi Vanessa. Yes but I swung by Victor’s room and checked on him. He looks a lot happier now. So how much longer is Elenore going to be in the mike?”

Vanessa chuckled. “She’s getting a new body not microwaving an easy bake cake.”

“What’s wrong with cake?”

“Nothing is wrong with cake. But to answer your question she’s going to be in there for another hour and a half then once they take her out they have to check her over.”

“Oh okay. Oh Victor wanted to know if you can bring him up some ice cream.” Madlax said shrugging her shoulders.

“I’m stuck here for the moment; otherwise I would get it for him. I saw him earlier and you’re right he is a lot happier than has he has been.”

“Margaret told me that you and Elenore had another fight over this.”

Vanessa sighed. “You know how over protective she can get.”

Madlax nodded and gave a small “uh-huh” in response.

“So how long have two not talked to each other this time?”

“Almost a month, she’s been really stubborn about this.” Vanessa replied with a slight irritation in her tone.

“Wow, no wonder Vic went ahead with it.”

Vanessa nodded. “Well, she can’t say much now. But I’m sure, knowing her she’ll have somebody follow him around.”

“I guess so.” Madlax said shrugging as she didn’t want to get in the middle of another Elenore vs.

Vanessa fight.

“Anyways, I’ll get Vic his ice cream before I leave. Oh I almost forgot, Margaret asked...” Madlax began and Vanessa interrupted.

“Tell her yes; that Victor and I are coming for the tenth time.” Vanessa said with a deep sigh.

“Okay.” Madlax said with a wave as she left.

Back in the VSR Elenore adjusted her position and went back to reading the book once again.