

Bubblegum Catch

By: Indi

The perfect smile Edward had maintained for the entire board meeting vanished the instant he stepped onto the elevator and the doors closed. A high level executive at Gaines Global, the white ferret wanted nothing more than a vacation. Which is what he was *supposed* to be on. Instead it'd been delayed at the last minute because of an "emergency".

In reality it was just the board being paranoid. They were all yammering on about internal security issues and disappearances and a host of other worries that seemed meaningless as far as Edward was concerned. There was no reason he had to be there in person when he could've nodded along with false concern from the comfort of his yacht just as well.

And worse of all, there was *another* meeting scheduled for tomorrow, leaving him stuck planetside for the time being. He was considering extending his vacation time just to spite the others.

In between silent complaints Edward glanced over at the two bodyguards he'd been assigned. More of the board's paranoia. He could understand having them for extended trips, but in the company's own building? Preposterous! Existing security was more than good enough, and being shadowed by two stoic guards was a bad look. He just knew the employees were laughing at him behind his back.

After only a few floors the elevator came to an unexpected stop, doors opening. On the other side was a pink tiger android. They were dressed in rather loose business casual with a thick metal collar around their neck. They were almost on the verge of being unprofessional considering the company's dress code standards.

Edward wasn't really interested in what some random drone was wearing, though. That was a chat for their boss, not someone as high up the ladder as him.

The tiger entered, nodding to both Edward and his guards. Soon the doors were closed and the elevator on its way again, thankfully void of aimless chit-chat.

Unfortunately the ferret had to endure something almost as bad, as the tiger abruptly started blowing pink bubbles. Edward hadn't even realized it was possible for androids to chew bubblegum.

The steady sounds of blowing and popping caught the attentions of everyone else in the elevator. It was distracting enough for them to miss the strange swelling of the tiger's middle.

Steadily the tiger began to balloon outward, their loose outfit tightening and straining. The gaps revealed not metal or plastic, but a shiny pink substance with black stripes that looked exactly like the gum they were blowing. Their dress shirt scrunched up and their belt stretched, more and more of their round pink middle being exposed. It was somewhat transparent, and looked far more fragile than it actually was.

A button on the dress shirt popping off finally alerted the others to what was happening. The guards were startled, their emotionless facade broken as they tried to understand the bizarre situation. Edward wasn't faring any better. While they stood speechless, the tiger turned around, grinning as they continued to expand.

"What is this, some kind of prank!" Edward demanded in a fury. His guards moved forward to flank the tiger. "If you don't stop, stop *whatever* this is you'll be fired by the time this elevator stops!"

"Not sure what you're talking about," the tiger said. "I'm just blowing some bubbles."

And with that the tiger rapidly ballooned outward. The remaining buttons on their shirt burst off in a barrage, letting their bubble middle wobble free. Their round sides pressed right against the two guards, who discovered the substance the tiger's body was made of was just as sticky as gum, too.

Despite the best efforts of the guards to pull themselves free they failed, gradually getting enveloped by the pink mass as the tiger expanded in every direction.

Edward backed against the elevator wall, watching in terror as his guards were pulled into the

increasingly spherical bubble tiger. Soon they were gone completely, though he could spot the occasional bulge jut from the tiger's side as they struggled within.

"W-Wait, what do you want? Money? A promotion? I can make you beyond wealthy!" Edward begged, watching the gap between himself and the bubble shortening by the second.

The tiger laughed, their whole body wobbling. "Tempting, but all I want to do is give you a little ride."

Frantic shouts for help echoed futilely, until they were muffled by a wall of striped pink. The tiger didn't stop swelling until they'd filled almost every cranny of the elevator.

Roz couldn't help but smile afterward.

They were a Scivoli, a sentient goo that usually wore armored suits to better interact with the more solid species. Roz was still rather unique among their kind, though. They could control the form of their gum-like body with ease, able to inflate or stretch it when necessary. Only their head, paws, and tail were contained in any armor, simply to disguise themselves as an android while working.

Roz was very fond of living without a suit, their true body rarely contained. Of course they were also fond of encasing others within it, something they got to indulge in frequently as part of their job "acquiring" people for others.

After taking a moment to enjoy the struggles of the three within them, Roz steadily began to deflate. When they only filled half the elevator one of the guards was ejected from their round body, their arms bound and mouth gagged by some of the gooey gum. Seconds later the same happened to the other guard.

Edward was shifted around within Roz, curled up and moved to their belly. Even after fully deflating the Scivoli looked heftier than before, their whole body thicker to match their bulging gut. Waddling out the front doors with an obviously squirming middle made of goo would've caused a scene, though.

Fortunately Roz had ways to fix that.

A button was pressed on their collar, and suddenly black liquid latex gushed from it. The latex swiftly poured down Roz's body, hardening into a tight jumpsuit. It hid both their natural form *and* all signs of the ferret within them. To any bystander they'd just look like a maintenance worker with a sizable ball gut.

The security footage would give Roz's secret away eventually, but by then they'd be long gone with their cargo.

Roz gleefully slapped their temporary belly with both paws, watching as it didn't jiggle in the slightest. They could still feel Edward wiggling around inside, the muted sound of his voice reverberating.

"Tire yourself out all you want, it won't make a difference. As far as the outside world is concerned I'm just a fat android full of bonus hardware. They definitely won't suspect I'm carrying around one of their fancy execs."

Sure enough, when Roz left the elevator on the ground floor they barely received notice at all. Behind them Edward's bodyguards were stuck to the ceiling, out of sight and unable to alert anyone as the doors closed.

Calm and unassuming, Roz blew a bubble and popped it, congratulating himself on yet another job well done.