

Me and my woolly friend went straight to the locker room. We have our places not so far from each. I started changing clothes. In normal parts of this factory, people have work T-shirts. We don't have those, but ram wanted to show off (even if his figure is hidden behind the wool).

"Bran, what are you doing?" - I asked.

"Can you see that I was in gym?" - he sounded excited.

"Yes... Now come on, I don't want to be here longer than I need to."

"Oh, man... Don't do this to me. We should compare."

"What?"

"You have better figure than me, I must sadly admit. I want to see the progress."

"Don't you have better things to do? We can do it later. Besides, your wool obscures "your progress"."

"I'm still hesitating if I should shave myself. But please, Ruvim..."

"Listen, I can do that, but only briefly. I know you want to get out of here quickly too."

"Yep. We check that and I'll show you my surprise."

I re-opened my locker, so I could get a place to stash my clothes. Firstly, I took off my coat, then my zipped fleece and finally, my shirt. I'll be honest and say that I'm not very muscular. Muscles are still visible, but I'm far from bodybuilder. Not that I need to look like one - I'm already pretty strong.

"Wow... It certainly looks better than from my memories."

"Maybe you're bisexual?"

"Fuck you."

"Ha ha... yeah, don't worry, I'm joking. Can we go?"

"Sure."

So I dressed up once again and grabbed my stuff. Bran took his sweet time to do the same, but I didn't comment on that. As we were ready and wanted to leave the place, Silan caught up to both of us.

"Hey, guys." - he started.

"What is it, Silan?" - I asked.

"Maybe you knew someone who would want to take me to a specific place? I have to get there quickly."

"I think you should ask..."

"Come with us, doggie."

"Bran?"

"Later."

Three of us left the building and were going to the reception. As we get there, I saw that we were only "normal" workers present at this moment. Me and ram went

through the gates first. But as our group was close to the door, a guard started approaching us.

"Hey, dog. Can you show us your backpack?"

Silan got instantly paralyzed after hearing this. I could see fear written all over his face. He shouldn't feel that way - it's just an ordinary control. Maybe this was his first one. In that case - sure, this can sound scary. Unless...

"Is it absolutely necessary?" - I asked, with one hand in my pocket.

"Ehm..." - sentry got confused for a moment. - "No, it's not. You can go."

Me and my colleagues could finally leave the grounds of this company. After that, ram said that we should follow him.

"That was... strange." - Silan commented.

"What do you mean?" - I asked.

"He asked me for a control and... then not. Like... someone forced his mind to do that."

"Do you know how stupid this sounds?"

"Yeah... But you know what I mean."

"I do. Things like this sometimes happen. You shouldn't be scared of next controls. Unless you take stuff from the factory. And your backpack..."

"You won't tell anyone?"

Me and Bran replied that we won't. We took a brief stop and Silan showed us the contents of his backpack. I could see large amount of paper with notes written on it about various procedures, but also some small items taken from the laboratory.

"Wow..." - ram was visibly shocked. - "You will make your own lab or something?"

"This or I'll just sell it."

"You are really brave, if you're stealing stuff from your work since your first days."

"Yeah, "brave"..." - I commented with irony. - "Listen, man... You should be careful with doing that. Taking stuff in such big portions will get you in trouble. I'd advice to do that with smaller ones. It'll take longer, but won't be that easy to catch you."

"Huh... I thought you'll scold me for that."

"Nah, we don't care for that factory. Just be careful."

"Thanks, guys. And thank you, Ruvim."

"For what?"

"If not for you, that guard would get me."

"I didn't do anything."

"You did. You helped me."

"Whatever you say..." - I replied, while smiling a little.

The company had quite large parking around their grounds. I even heard that they want to expand it even further. Understandable, because it's a place that gives work to more than two thousand employees. More than a half are office sukas, though.

There are hundreds of vehicles that were just standing. From old and bit rusty ones, through average ones that are popular for some reason, to cars that looked like they are frequent participants of street racing. I'll admit - the latter look cool.

Ram pointed at one particular car. I'm no expert, when we talk about them, so I'll just describe the looks. It was a dark red four-door vehicle with small trunk, which had small spoiler on top of it. Rims were new and looked like sport ones. Glasses were a bit dimmed.

"Surprise!" - my horned friend shouted with enthusiasm.

Silan whistled, when he saw this car.

"What do you say, Ruvim?" - Bran asked.

"Cool ride, to say the least." - I replied. - "You robbed a bank or something?"

"I won it when I was out in last weekend."

"Seriously? What did you have to do?"

"Win a race."

"But you didn't have a vehicle earlier."

"I borrowed one from my friend. It was worth it."

"It was, I agree. So... I assume you want a little test ride?"

"Damn right I want!"

"Ekhem..." - Silan grunted.

"Ah, I almost forgot... Where do you want to go?"

"To the market."

"Okay. Hop in, lads."

I took the front seat. Interior mostly consisted of leather seats with appropriately colored upholstery and rest was made from plastic and metal. On top of that, I felt really comfy inside. Bran probably had the best deal of his life.

"Fasten your seatbelts, gentlemen." - ram said with pride. - "It'll be a rough ride."

With a squeal of tires, we left the parking. After passing near kindergarten (which I find funny that it's located near factory that produces lots of smoke) and grocery shop, Bran accelerated. We had luck that the street was pretty much empty. He was so focused on riding that he crossed the road on red light.

"It happens." - ram commented.

"Say that to the cops." - I responded. - "They tend to patrol this neighborhood pretty often."

"Sure, mom..."

I sighed. We got to that "forest park" I visited in last weekend. It isn't used very often, so it can be utilized as some sort of shortcut. However, it has some downsides. The biggest one is having speed bumps that blend into the environment. Fortunately, the driver knew where they were located. He had to, if he didn't want to damage his ride.

After leaving the forest, the road was pretty much straight. This was the opportunity to show how fast and how high this vehicle can accelerate. I wasn't scared at all, but I checked on Silan, who was sitting on the back. He looked unphased, so he didn't mind it as well.

We were getting closer to the crossroads with each second. Normal people would start slowing down, but I knew Bran. When he was close enough, he utilized handbrake and drifted to the right. Some guy honked at us, but my woolly friend didn't care. And if it failed, a cemetery was located very close to our position.

Now we were driving through that "bumpy" bridge, which was paved with stones. I could see slight signs of frustration on Bran's face. I don't know anyone who likes to drive here. It supposedly should help with street racing, but I doubt that's the true reason for that.

When we were close to the pastry shop, we turned right. We were already near the market, but we had to pass the paper shop that had terrible stink for some reason. But eventually, we arrived to blonde dog's destination.

"Thanks, Bran." - Silan replied, while his tail was wiggling.

"No problem, kid. See you tomorrow."

Our colleague left the car and ram started going to the direction, where park is located. I still don't want to be there, but that feeling isn't as strong as earlier.

"Where now?" - I asked.

"I'll grab my sis from bus station."

Soon after, we got near the park. I often see some shady types or some morons hanging around there and this time wasn't an exception. Good that we didn't have to go there and instead, we arrived at bus station.

After finding a place to leave the vehicle nearby, we started looking from Bran's sister. Not that it would take us a lot of time - there aren't that many benches here. And I was right - she was sitting between some large individuals, using her phone. Ram whistled.

"Yagna!" - he shouted. - "Over here!"

Sheep instantly raised her head up and hid her phone. She started approaching us. Yagna is quite similar to his brother - black sheep with white wool. But comparing her to him, she's more beautiful, shorter and lacks horns. They even have similar dress code - she had a sweatshirt and loose trousers.

"Hey, Bran. Oh... Ruvim, good to see you."

"Privet, little lamb." - I couldn't help, but smile.

"I'm not so little, you know..."

"You know that I don't mean that seriously."

"I know. Come here."

I got to Yagna and she proceeded to hug me tightly. Funny thing is that she's way softer than her brother. I know I could ask her about that, but it wasn't something that was very important to me. Either way, it's not a problem to me.

"Is it me or you gained more muscles?" - she asked as she was releasing me.

"You just feel that way. I didn't do anything for that."

"I see."

"How's the college?"

"Much better, if I can return to the apartment rather than be in the dorm."

"Yeah... I wouldn't like to live with those assholes either."

"Thanks to you two, I don't have problems with them anymore."

"Glad to hear it."

"Ruvim... can you show me a magic trick? It was quite long ago, since I saw one."

"I showed one last month. But okay, I can show you one, but I need a paper and a lighter."

Bran passed me a banknote and some fire.

"Okay..." - I started. - "I have one banknote. Now, I'll slightly burn it..."

"Ruvim?" - ram asked, slightly scared.

"Don't worry, friend. I know what I'm doing." - I replied, as fire started spreading through the bill. - "Wait a moment... I'll extinguish it now. You see, it's damaged - I even have some ash in my hand because of that. I'll crush banknote in my hand, grind it a little bit... And... Done! Two banknotes, intact ones."

"Wow..." - siblings were clearly impressed.

I returned the items to Bran.

"But how did you do that?" - Yagna asked.

"I'm sorry, but I can't say that to you."

"Pleaaaaaase...?"

"Nuh-uh. It'd lost the veil of mystery. And I know you'll want to see more of those in the future, right?"

"Of course."

"So don't ask about it, please."

"I don't know about you..." - Bran said. - "...but I want to get home."

"Yeah, me too."

"Come then."

All three of us got into the car. We left the bus station and returned to normal roads. Yes, we didn't have to move through the paved tracks. Since there wasn't

much of a traffic, we could move quite fast here. Eventually, Bran dropped me near my house and left with his sister. Good - I could use some more read...