

I woke up the next day. I wasn't doing much yesterday after I returned home from Fiura. Finished that big bowl, continued on reading a book, took a shower and went to sleep. We all have problems, but someone like her have relatively normal ones. And me? They won't even comprehend my past, if I told them about it.

I dressed up, took my coat, locked the house and went to the bus stop. Even though it wasn't dark and went from the bed as rested, I was getting more sleepy as I was getting closer to the stop. Probably because I don't want to go to that work.

Bus wasn't that crowded. Most likely because it's Monday and many people just didn't want to go to the factory, opting for longer rest instead. Not that I blame them - that place become worse and worse with each day. Unless you're from management or even higher - in that case you just don't care.

I saw some older ladies talking to each other about accidents that supposedly happened during my absence in company. But that's usually just gossips, so didn't care that much. Fiura would've said something about it. I ignored them and started reading "The Magus".

The journey didn't take long and I could quickly get to my department. When going through the security gate, I saw a guy who was unlucky and was chosen for the more thorough control. It can happen at random to everyone.

After getting to the locker room, leaving my stuff and taking the lab coat, I went inside Quality department of the laboratory. Sight was the same as usual, even if I include the squad. Yes, Fiura was already present here. I was concerned, not gonna lie.

"Ruvi!" - she screamed with joy.

"Hi, squirrel." - I replied with slight smile. - "I thought you'll get here later. You didn't break the promise, are you?"

"No, of course not. I thought for like half an hour and then I went to sleep. But I woke up near the late evening."

"What happened?"

"You've heard about Leesan, right?" - she asked, opening her eyes more.

"Da. Dyesel mentioned him few days ago."

"I actually managed to get in contact with him."

"Have you organized a meeting?"

"Yes. We'll meet tomorrow. I'll probably take a pass, so I can go out earlier."

"You thought about how this will go?"

"Not much." - she started hugging her tail. - "If it won't be what I expect then I won't continue. Otherwise... who knows?"

"And what do you expect?"

"Blast from the past, to put it shortly."

"Well... you deserve someone that will be a support for you."

"Thanks, Ruvim."

Then, a new wave of arrivals came. I saw guys and gals dressed in lab coats that went to greet us. After that, they went to their stands, while still talking to

one another. Last from this group was Silan, who quickly joined us.

"Hello!" - he started the talk, while wiggling his tail.

"Hi!" - me and Fiura replied.

"How are you doing?"

"Today? Much better." - squirrel responded with wider smile.

"Good. In Saturday... you wasn't that happy. Em... no offense."

"Silan, we've talked about this. Don't be sorry - you're with friends, at least here. And I had a serious talk with a friend who swayed me from... bad thoughts."

"I... I see. Glad to hear it."

"I'll go and talk with Dyesel. We'll talk later."

Squirrel went deeper into the lab to find her woodpecker friend. I was alone with blonde dog recruit.

"And you, Ruvim?" - he stopped wiggling his tail.

"Good. Couple of things happened at the weekend. Trained the fencing with new neighbor, took a long walk through town... Oh - and I met with lost friend. We haven't seen each other for two years."

"Really?"

"Yeah. We've talked for a while about our past. I also learned that she's a policewoman."

"Oh... he he... i-it's good to have such friends."

"Da..."

"And you were..."

"...together? No. I've never even heard of relationship between someone like her and someone like me. We're the opposites, you know. I can even say that it's like we're from two different worlds."

"But you're still friends with her."

"I'm surprised to this day that it could happen. But I won't complain. You shouldn't miss on opportunities, if you see them."

"Yeah..."

Suddenly, the door went wide open, like someone kicked them. I suspected who it might be, but then I saw a shape at said door. It was a sheep, but I should say "ram". Black ram with silver sheep eyes, white wool and curly horns, but not as big and curly as mine, so he could actually wear a T-shirt. He - of course - had a lab coat and stupid grin on his face.

"Ladies and gentlemen" - said the ram loudly - "I have returned... Oooh! Whom do my eyes see... Hello, Ruvim, you grumpy and scary alcoholic."

"Zdravo, Bran, you attention-seeking, women-hunting mudak."

"Hey, fuck you! You should do that from time to time."

"And I should escape from women's boyfriends, if things won't go according to

the plan too?"

"Yeah, yeah... Come here, you bastard."

We exchanged a quick hug. Sometimes, he's annoying, but I kinda missed him here. And how did such guy became my best friend? It's a nice story, but I'll keep it for more appropriate moment. No need to put it here.

"Anyway..." - I sighed. - "This is Silan, our newest co-worker."

"Hmm..." - Bran started observing him. - "Man, are you serious?"

"What?" - Silan got scared and confused. - "I-I-I don't..."

"You joined at the shitty time, dude."

"Bran..." - I made a facepalm. - "Go easy on him. You want to scare all people from here?"

"Heh... Don't worry, doggy. I was just joking. I like the lads here, so you have nothing to worry about from me. I promise."

Silan nodded, so that meant that he understood. But he still went away, most likely because of this encounter.

"Listen, man." - Bran quickly returned to the conversation.

"What's the matter?"

"You won't wait for the bus."

"They changed the schedule?"

"No, but I'll keep it as a surprise."

"Uh huh... Maybe I should be scared?"

"Nah, you shouldn't."

"So what happened at the weekend?"

"What can I say... it took longer than expected. Nonetheless, it was worth it."

"Great."

"And what about you?"

"I met with my friend that I haven't seen for two years. She's a firebird."

"Phew..." - Bran whistled. - "She must be a hot chick, then."

"Heh... this I won't deny."

"So maybe you should took it one step further?"

"You don't know her."

"Not yet. How about a meeting? You with her and me with Yagna."

"Your sister?" - I chuckled a bit. - "I thought you'd take someone else."

"Maybe they'll like each other. Beside, it's a certain option that she'll go."

"Unlike other females. I know. I wonder why is that..."

"I'm not picky about women, unlike you."

"Is that a problem?" - I asked with slight smile.

"I'll get you one. I can't properly look at you with knowledge you haven't had a girl."

"Then you should get glasses."

"Yeah, yeah... Screw you."

At that moment, I saw the door opening. In it, I saw my boss, but also a tiger dressed in work clothes. However, those were much cleaner. I even recognized him - this was a guy from management. Great, now my day is complete..