

Sturge picks up a watering can while Solara chooses the hose as her choice of watering tool. The two gently water the newly planted seeds so as to not disrupt the soil too much. Like the gentleman he was, Sturge did so carefully and watched his step since he didn't want to disrupt anything in Solara's beloved garden. Solara, however, was in a particularly good mood. Perhaps she could be the impish one for once.

With a slight movement of her wrist, she aimed the hose to lightly spray the tip of Sturge's tail. Surprised, he yelped and jumped forward, flicking his tail out of the way in the process. He glanced over at her and stepped away from the garden bed as he laughed with realization at what she'd done. "Hey, now! I'm no plant, y'hear?"

"You look like you could use a bit of watering," she teased as she twisted the nozzle settings to something less gentle and more violent.

Seeing this, Sturge gulped and took another step back, joking, "Take it easy there! I didn't mean to eat the entire tray of brownies I baked for you!"

Solara laughed and smirked, "Well, you better be planning on baking another!"

Seeing that evil glare in her eye, Sturge watched helplessly as she aimed the hose directly at him and turned it on. The spray of water wasn't as harsh as he'd expected and was actually pretty pleasant! Despite this, he was still being sprayed with water and would be soaking wet! Sturge laughed as he ran away from the relentless stream of water and despite his efforts to hide, the water continued its onslaught.

After a little more spraying, Solara decided to let the poor guy be. He was sopping wet but was smiling and laughing regardless. She smiled at the sight as he took his hat off to wring the water out of it. Sturge was a good friend and was always such a good sport about this stuff. Despite everything she'd done and every conflicting emotion, he'd been able to pick up on it and understand her as a friend. She knew she hadn't been the best person in the past and with the help of her partner and friends she'd been able to grow into the person she was today. After all, not having Sterling or Sturge throughout her bitchy era would've been a pain in the ass! Sterling grounded her and gave her security while Sturge was always there to listen or offer advice as a third-party.

Solara tears up as she thinks about this but quickly wipes away her tears with a paw, hoping her friend wouldn't see it. Throughout everything she was truly lucky to have Sturge as a friend and even Gelato once they'd overcome their issues. Sterling was a wonderful partner who treated her beyond what she deserved and loved her thoroughly. They balanced each other out romantically while as a whole friend group they meshed together so naturally. Everything was

perfect in life at the moment and despite all the less than pleasant times she'd endured she'd do it all over again to be in this position.

Sturge approaches her and plops his wet hat back on his head despite it slumping awkwardly to one side. "Got all your energy out now?"

"I think I did. Ah, I should go get you a towel to dry off, though. I suppose I went a little hard on you."

Sturge shakes his head with a hearty chuckle and pats himself on the chest a couple times. "It's perfect for weather like this! It's a little warm so I'm cooled off and ready for my next job, boss!"

Solara rolls her eyes at her friend and sets the hose down. "Well, I suppose you could help with pruning the garden while you're here. But I do insist I bring you a nice towel and a drink for your efforts."

"Lemonade?"

"Lemonade it is, then."