(Every character depicted in the story below is a consenting legal adult over the age of 18)

A/N: Tea's scheming goes mostly according to plan~

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Thinking about it, Galatea really didn't want to fall behind. Sure, maybe she shouldn't be competing with Claire, but at the same time, she risked falling down the totem pole if she just let Claire get a lead on her like this. And Tea didn't doubt for even a single moment that Claire WOULD manage to seduce at least one of those Amazons into Lucien's bed.

No… she needed to show Lucien that she could be useful as well. And that meant tricking the original into sticking around so that eventually, he would seduce her with his mere presence. Yeah, Tea wasn't blind. She saw the way that Kara had looked at Lucien once or twice when nobody was looking.

Maybe the superheroine really had gone undercover to try and nail Lucien to the wall for criminal activity… or maybe she'd just been hoping she'd be the one to get nailed to the wall by his big… fat… cock.

Grinning wickedly, Galatea begins to form a plan in the back of her mind. She would have to be careful about how she worded things… the interaction had to go perfectly or she might wind up chasing Kara away instead. But she could do it. Oh yes, she was absolutely certain she could do it.

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“And so it is my solemn honor to award these brave men and women, heroes one and all, with the Presidential Medal of Freedom.”

Kara straightens up a little bit more, even as a smiling President Alexander Luthor slowly goes down the line, starting with Superman and continuing from there. Camera flashes galore go off in their faces as each of them is given the Medal of Freedom, the highest civilian honor that the President of the United States can bestow upon someone.

It still felt weird after all this time to have any version of Lex Luthor as President. But she was finally starting to realize that she’d been wrong before. If Lucien wasn’t a bad man, then his father’s clone probably wasn’t that bad either or they wouldn’t have worked so closely together.

And Lucien definitely wasn’t a bad man. He was a bit of an asshole, especially with how he’d let her think she was managing to fly under the radar while working her to the bone for weeks on end… but he wasn’t evil. Nor was he a criminal.

As the President reaches her, he gives her a brief smile and a nod while taking the latest Medal of Freedom from an aid and placing it around her neck.

“Thank you for your service, Supergirl.”

Blowing out a short breath, Kara gives the clone a nod of respect.

“Mr. President.”

He pauses for half a second at that, and something akin to understanding passes between them, Kara thinks. After all, even if he’s not as evil as the original, he is just as smart. No doubt, the President knows that she’s been

one of his greatest detractors for the past year. She hopes he doesn't know her secret identity… but all things considered, she's not relying on that hope very much anymore.

Still, after a beat, Alexander Luthor moves on and Kara is left to force a cheery smile on her face as the crowd of cameras continues to record her. The ceremony continues for a while after that, mostly as a result of just how many members of the Justice League took part in the operation and therefore are receiving medals. However, eventually the President returns to his podium for some final words.

"Cadmus represents a dark time in America's history, and a black spot on my predecessor's record. I did everything in my power to divorce the United States Government from the organization and bring a halt to their actions once I took office, but in a world of alien invasions and individuals with the personal power of nuclear bombs, there's only so much that even the President of the United States can do."

He pauses briefly, relying on the hush that falls over the crowd at his words to give him a moment of silence. Then, he continues on with a broad smile and a gesture towards the League.

"That is where these heroes come in. That is where the Justice League truly shines. Without their example of what we can become, what we all must strive for, where would we be? Let's give it up for the Justice League!"

Raucous cheering and clapping fill the air as Kara resists the urge to shake her head in disbelief. Not only at the double meaning behind Alexander talking about his 'predecessor', but also the way he's so willing to diminish his own power and prop up the League. There's no way those words that just came from the clone's lips would have ever left the original's mouth.

Kara isn't sure that the original Lex Luthor would have been willing to say something like that even for some scheme of his. Frankly, it's becoming more and more obvious that she'd been downright foolish for thinking that Lucien and the clone of his father were up to something…

As the ceremony ends, the party begins and though Kara might have wanted to slip away, she knew full well that she couldn't. Not when she's already on incredibly thin ice with Kal and the rest of the League's leadership as is. Instead, she just tries to be as unobtrusive and unnoticeable as possible.

It even works for a time… though in avoiding most of the people who might have insisted on singing her praises, Kara in turn leaves herself wide open to one of the few people in attendance who won't.

"So I guess this is probably it, huh?"

Turning, Kara finds Tea a couple feet away, holding up her own Presidential Medal of Freedom from her ample chest and eyeing it speculatively for a moment before giving Kara a look. The clone smirks in a way that makes Kara narrows her eyes in response.

"I'm not sure what you mean."

Shrugging, Galatea gestures around them.

"All of this… ain't really my speed. Nice to be acknowledged and shit, but I'm not planning on being a hero full time. That's why Lucien sent us, ya know? He wanted us to try it out… being away from him, doing other stuff. See if we like it or not. But… it ain't for me. So I'll go back to him. Maybe be his bodyguard full time or something."

Kara frowns. On the one hand, it's not like she necessarily wants Tea to stick around and join the Justice League. It's awkward enough being Superman's younger cousin and everyone looking down on her for that like she isn't a full grown adult in her own right. Having a more mature-looking clone of her running around would be just the worst, ugh.

On the other hand, the League always needed more heavy hitters. This operation against Cadmus that had them taking down Amanda Waller and all the other leaders in one fell swoop… it had definitely one of the good days. Sometimes, things went way worse. So having Tea on hand would be pretty damn helpful.

Just as she's wondering how to convince the other blonde to stick around though, Galatea continues on with a smirk.

"And it's not like you're going to stick around as Lucien's secretary or anything like that. I mean, he probably won't think to fire you or anything, but that's probably because he'll assume that you'll quit."

Kara blinks. She hadn't even thought about that yet to be honest. Amidst everything else that was going on, her secret identity's job status as Lucien's personal assistant had completely slipped her mind. Really, Tea kind of had a point… but at the same time, something about the way that the clone says it rubs Kara the wrong way and makes her bristle.

"Yeah? And why's that exactly?"

Tea looks surprised.

"I mean… why would you stick around? Now that everything is out in the open, Lucien would just work you to the bone even harder. Sure, he'd probably be more understanding than most employers when it came to you

having to fly off and save the day I guess, but surely it's not worth the hassle. Not to mention…"

The clone trails off, making Kara narrow her eyes and frowns.

"Not to mention what?"

Here, Galatea gives Kara a wide, wicked grin.

"Well… we both know the only reason you WOULD stick around is because you're hoping to get into his pants. But that's obviously not happening. After all, he has me, the far superior version."

Kara's mouth opens… and then closes as she finds herself remembering all of the incredibly lewd, smut-filled dreams she's been having about Lucien for the past couple weeks. She can barely go a single night without soaking through her bedding with her arousal, and she's shamefully masturbated herself to sleep at least once thinking about the fantasy.

But that was all it was! A fantasy! She didn't actually want to seduce Lucien Luthor… right?

"I see you get my point. So I guess we're on the same page then. You stay in your lane and I stay in mine. I get the guy and you get… the satisfaction of saving lives? Whatever it is you heroic types get off on. Either way… this is goodbye, Supergirl."

And with that, her clone turns and walks away. Kara watches her go in sheer disbelief, not even sure how to quantify what she's currently feeling. Outrage? Anger? Shock? Maybe just a little bit of… arousal?

Still, even with Galatea being a total bitch… she was probably right in the end. Kara couldn't just stick around LexCorp like a bad penny. She'd gotten the job in the first place under her own merits sure, but it'd still been false pretenses. And then she'd gone and gotten caught spying on her boss.

Lucien probably wouldn't let her continue working as his secretary even if she wanted to… would he? No, probably not. Not unless she offered him something to let her stay… which she would n-never do, of course! She-!

"I'm sorry, I hope I'm not disturbing you too much Supergirl."

Yanked rather rudely from her inner turmoil, Kara turns and freezes up as she finds herself staring into the bright green eyes of the beautiful, vivacious Lena Lord. The female CEO is dressed to the nines again, wearing an absolutely gorgeous dress on the same level as what she'd worn to her own event the other night.

She also has a smile on her lips that proves infectious, even as Kara tries not to let too much of what she's dealing with, or the fact that they've met before, show on her face.

"Y-Yes! That's me. And you… you're Lena Lord. It's a pleasure to meet you for the first time!"

Smooth, Kara. Real smooth. Lena looks momentarily surprised at being recognized, before smiling in a self-deprecating manner.

"Oh right. All that business with the UN and the Justice League. I suppose my father's infamy precedes me."

Eyes widening slightly, Kara quickly shakes her head.

“O-Oh! No, it’s not… I mean, I’ve just seen you pop up in the news a couple times that all. Not just because of your father, but on your own merits! Don’t worry… nobody blames you for what Max Lord did. You’re the one who turned him in after all!”

Lena sighs, still smiling but a bit more dimly now.

“Thank you Supergirl, that means a lot coming from you. I have to say… you’re one of my favorites. Seeing a strong, powerful woman like you take charge and save the day… you’re an inspiration.”

Kara valiantly resists the urge to stare at Lena with her mouth agape after such a compliment. Instead, she lets out a shaky little laugh.

“W-Well… I do what I can. But h-having women in positions of industry and business like you are is just as important as anything me or my fellow heroines do, Ms. Lord! You should never forget that you’re someone of influence in your own right, after all! A CEO for little girls everywhere to look up to and one day emulate!”

Lena’s smile dims even more at that, until she’s very nearly frowning, though she does her best to keep the corners of her mouth turned upwards.

“Ah. Well, thank you for the kind words Supergirl. It may not be true for much longer though…”

Wait, what? But before Kara can ask what Lena means by that, someone else suddenly calls out to the CEO of Lord Enterprises and there’s a flurry of goodbyes before Kara is watching the other woman make her way across the room.

She tries not to stare too hard at Lena's ass, but at the same time she finds herself turning over the beautiful woman's final words in her head again and again. Until finally, it hits her. The meeting with Lucien later this week… was Lena Lord looking to sell her company to the man? Was that why she wouldn't be a CEO much longer?!

But… she couldn't! Not that Lucien was a bad guy, but Kara had meant every word when she said powerful women of industry were just as important as powerful women in costumes!

It hits Kara then what she has to do. She's going to have to disappoint Galatea, because she can't quit her job at LexCorp. Not yet anyways. Not when there's still a chance to save Lena Lord from making the biggest mistake of her life!

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They join one another in the middle of the clearing, embracing each other as they press their foreheads together.

"Hello Lucien, my love."

"Hello Death. I'm here. Always."

"Mm… always."

Lucien loves freely and deeply. Whether it's Starfire or Blackfire, Harley Quinn or Barbara Gordon, Claire or Tea. He loves them all, each in their own way… but he can never ever forget the woman who makes it possible for him to spread his love so far in the first place.

Death of the Endless is the reason he still lives. Their connection, their bond, is everything to him. And while he might have accepted that he couldn't just race to the finish line when it came to bringing their relationship to the next level, Lucien had never stopped aiming for the ultimate goal… making his endless lover cum.

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A/N: Remember to go back and VOTE!