

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 26, 2024**  
**Connecting With Him**

*I thought that this moment might come. I have been hoping for it and now it is here. He is here in Chicago. Being the other two are protecting her at all costs, I know it would be unwise of me to try and go after Polly again, to reclaim my pet that I never should have lost. But Peter dearest is now all alone and exactly where I want him. If I cannot have whom I desire, and since he is ripe for the pickings, I may as well at least have some fun with him instead. Besides, it will be like I have Polly right here beside me, with me pulling the strings.*

*From what Mr. Compton was able to tell me during his one free daily phone call, Peter and Polly are at odds with one another, with Polly not trusting him one bit. If that is what marriage does to someone, I am glad that I am single and always ready to mingle. With where his head is at, I have a really good idea on how to talk to him and convince him to forget about Polly and focus instead on his future. Instead of coming after me to try and hurt me, maybe, just maybe, he should be coming after me for support.*

*After all, I am not all bad. It's just that just like Mr. Compton, I know exactly what I want. And of course I will do anything I have to do to get it. Polly got away from me. Peter won't.*

An evil gleam is in the eyes of Marissa Swanson as she drops back into the shadows by the building she is next to. She does not have to wait very long as sure enough Peter comes from the direction of the hotel he is staying in. He walks right past her location and keeps going until he gets to one of the local bars. Clearly not thinking straight he walks into the bar and walks right up to the bar area, plopping himself onto a barstool. The bartender closest to him comes over and asks him if needs anything.

Peter: "I don't normally do this, but give me the strongest thing you have. I need something to get my mind off of things."

The bartender thinks for a moment before he turns around. While his back is turned, Marissa Swanson walks into the bar and sees where Peter has sat down. She calls out to him, actually in a very sweet tone.

Marissa: "Well you don't need a drink to do that."

Peter hears her and slowly spins the barstool around, wearing a look that could kill.

Peter: "YOU! When I told my father to leave me and Polly alone, I meant it! Get out of here before I do something that I assure you I will NOT regret!"

Marissa: "Mmm, nice threat Peter, but no. This is a public place and I am allowed to be here. You on the other hand seem like you could use some psychiatric help."

She slowly saunters up to him, somewhat seductively.

Peter: "Stay away from me and Polly! It is not hard to understand! You are the reason why I am here. Don't you get it? You have messed with her head so much that she believes that I am actually plotting against her when that just isn't so! She has had a lot of nightmares because you. For the last time, back off and go away!"

Marissa scoffs but does not make any sort of move to leave the bar. Instead she slowly begins to take her coat off, not taking her eyes off of Peter. Peter looks like he is about to leap off his barstool and hurt her, yet still Marissa continues with her little "show", revealing that she is wearing a really good looking plain black cocktail dress. Seeing that he has not moved, even though he is angry and red in the face, she approaches him, not scared at all of his bark. She looks like she is going to take a seat on his lap, which is when he swivels away from her. So instead she places her hands right on his shoulders and begins to heavily rub them.

Peter: "Stop it!"

Marissa: "Relax Peter. I'm not going to hurt you and right now I am expecting you to not hurt me. I can see that you are clearly troubled. Polly is the one that hurt you this time, not me. As your wife, she should have trusted you. If I were in her position, I would have never done that. I would have understood that you were behind me 100 percent and-"

Peter: "And NOTHING!"

Peter whips back around, forcing Marissa to quickly back away, shaking her hands out. She looks like she is about to get angry too now, but she is able to keep her cool.

Peter: "She only acted in the way she did because of YOU and HIM! Don't start twisting what's going on. Instead, GO AWAY YOU BITCH!!!"

Everyone in the bar is looking in Peter's direction now. Some then move their eyes from him to Marissa as she just stands there, taking his words quite well.

Marissa: "Well, now look at what you have done. You have all eyes on us. And here I am just wanting to give you some comfort. I know you don't trust me. I know you hate my guts. I know you feel like I'm Satan's Little Helper. But know this Peter. I don't truly want to be against you. I want to be on your side. Please let me do that. You need a friend and I am here extending the olive branch."

Peter is seething and stands up. He pulls out his cell phone.

Peter: "Leave me alone or I WILL call the police! It won't be the first time in this city that I've done it. They know me very well and WILL help me! GO! NOW!"

Marissa sighs and gives up, acting like she has been defeated once again.

Marissa: "Okay, fine. If that's what you really want. But if it isn't, I'm not a hard girl to find. For tonight, I'll let you cool off. See ya."

She winks at him before she backs away, leaving the bar, surprisingly with a smug look on her face, despite not getting what she wanted. After she is outside, she speaks to herself.

Marissa: "All in due time Peter. You need someone who will always be on your side. You need someone that can get you your Polly back to where she belongs. You need me."

She continues to wear her smug look while back inside the bartender finally serves a beverage to Peter, which Peter puts down in big gulps, with many of the bar's patrons still looking at him. But Peter doesn't pay attention to a single one of them. He throws down some cash on the bar once he has downed the entire drink and then leaves the bar, heading off on his own.

## **SATURDAY, JANUARY 27, 2024**

### **Connecting With Her**

The sun has since gone down on their last night here in Boston. All three ladies that now make up Body, Heart and Soul find themselves once again out in the streets of the historical district, hunting down a restaurant to eat at that will satisfy all of their appetites. They do walk around for quite some time but finally do pick out a place. It does not take long for the three of them to be seated. While Aisling looks around, probably trying to see if anyone is looking at her, Colleen's focus is solely on Polly, where it has been many, many times, especially over the past year. Polly is looking down at the floor so Colleen uses her left hand and places it under Polly's chin, getting her to look up.

Colleen: "Hey, it's easy to tell that you still aren't yourself. I really want you to be your old self against Deanna down there in Charlotte. I know how much you desire the United States Championship and I don't want to see you pass up this opportunity just because of everything that is going on. You have done that one too many times for my tastes. I can even tell earlier during our training session that you are still heavily distracted. It's understandable, but it's just not the Polly I have always known."

Polly: "Face it Coll. I'll never be that Polly ever again. It is what it is."

Colleen: "That may be so, but that doesn't mean you should give up on who you are."

Polly: "That's just it. I don't know who I am anymore. Yes, I still want to finally be the SCW United States Champion, but besides you and Aisling and my mom, what else do I have to live for? You've heard the uneasy crowds every time I go out there. Very few cheer me and that's probably only because they see me as the lesser of two evils, but most just either boo me

because they don't understand me or they just ignore me. I don't know what I ever did to deserve those sorts of reactions. I have done my very best to change into a better woman."

Colleen: "And you have. If they can't handle it, that's their problem, not yours. Even if the people of the world out there never come to like you, just remember that both of us will always love you. Just stay the course and focus on what truly matters out there."

Polly: "You're right about that I guess. But I guess as far as Deanna goes, I don't know why the crowds continue to cheer her. I mean Selena all but turned her back on the rest of us, including Deanna herself."

Colleen and Aisling both nod as Polly sighs. A young waiter comes over to take their drink orders. Aisling of course likes what she sees and shows a couple of signs of flirtation before she tells him what she wants. Colleen and Polly follow suit and the waiter walks away from the table, already a bit nervous at the looks that Aisling has given him. Colleen rolls her eyes at Aisling and Aisling shrugs her shoulders.

Aisling: "What? He's cute. You know I can't help it. I won't be able to help it until I finally have someone of my own."

These words get Polly to glare over at Aisling.

Aisling: "Oh. I'm sorry Polly."

Polly: "It's fine."

Aisling goes back to having her eyes wander around the place, smiling a little when she spots the waiter returning with their three drinks. The waiter gets to their table and places all three drinks down before again walking away. Polly looks like she is about to take the first sip of hers when she hears her cell phone go off. She looks down at it and stands up when she sees who it is. She immediately takes the call and walks away from Colleen and Aisling, with both of them placing their eyes on her as she goes away for some privacy.

Polly: "Peter? Um, are you okay?"

Peter: "I've been better. Look, I just called to tell you that I'm in Chicago. I just had to speak with him and give him the final ultimatum to leave the two of us alone. Unfortunately, he doesn't intend to do that."

Polly: "I'm not surprised. But why did you even go there? You know that he can't be reasoned with."

Peter: "I was hopeful, but I guess not. Anyways, it gets worse. Marissa found me."

Polly: "WHAT?!?!"

A few heads turn as Polly is passing the last table before heading outside to the sidewalk.

Peter: "It was last night. I wasn't feeling like myself and I needed a drink desperately. I don't know how she found me but I can only guess that he probably told her that I was in Chicago."

Polly: "Well that wasn't smart!"

Peter: "Hey! Tell me something I DON'T know, Polly!"

Polly: "WELL- UGGGH!"

Polly grunts out loud while in truth, both of them are very frustrated with one another.

Peter: "We all make mistakes Polly. It's called living and dealing with things as they come up, you know, as a married couple? Anyways, she tried to sweet talk me and tell me that she was on my side, but I of course dismissed her. Right now I will be perfectly honest with you Polly. I don't trust either of you. While that truth may sting, see it from where I'm standing."

Polly: "I don't know what I can see or not see anymore, Peter. I'm sorry that you are feeling the way you feel. I'm sorry that all of this has happened. And I'm sorry that you felt like you needed to run away from me just because you thought I wasn't ready to live out the rest of my life with you. There! Are you happy now?"

Peter: "No, but at least you're being genuine. Now it's my turn. I'm sorry that you ever got involved with my father back when we were younger. I'm sorry that he made a turn for the worst and became obsessed with you. But what I am most sorry for is that I laid my true feelings for you out there, and you laid yours for me, only to now pull back and not be ready to live as one. And to also be genuine Polly, if you don't realize by now that I would never EVER turn my back on you? Maybe I will consider what Marissa said."

Polly: "PETER! I- I-"

Peter: "You what?! I'm angry with you for doubting me and for very good reason! So prove it to me. Prove that you trust me and prove to yourself that you can safely let your guard down with your own husband. For pete's sake Polly, WAKE UP and smell the coffee already!"

Polly is crying on her end of the line now, folding her one free arm over where her chest is.

Polly: "Then I will do that. I will do whatever it takes Peter! Just please, please don't side with her! I LOVE YOU and I NEED YOU! Let me prove that to you!"

On his end of the line, Peter seems to be thinking about it. He nods to himself and even though Polly can't see him nodding, it's as if she can see him.

Peter: "Well okay then. I hate to treat you like this and to yell at you like this, but I have cared, do care, and will ALWAYS care about you. This. This is exactly what the both of them want. You know that, right? They want us at each other's throats. They both know it will be far easier to get to you, so they can have you forever. We can't let that happen. Look, I'll see you soon, just not yet. For now, focus on your in-ring business, go out and win that championship, and then think about everything I have said. Really truly think about it. I love you too, okay?"

Polly: "Okay."

Peter: "I have to go."

Polly: "Me too. Um, bye Peter."

Peter: "Bye."

The two of them hang up their cell phones at exactly the same time. With tears still flowing at a decent pace from her eyes, Polly starts trying to wipe them away, but just finds that she can't. She can't even bring herself to walk back into the restaurant for a bit, so she instead goes to the side of the place and leans her back up against the wall.

Polly: "He's right. We both have a lot to be sorry for and both have a lot of growing to do as a couple. I just- I don't know if I can."

Colleen: "You can and you will. All in due time."

Polly looks to her left to see Colleen standing there, obviously worried about why Polly had been gone from the table so long. Polly leans her head down onto Colleen's right shoulder.

Polly: "How much did you hear?"

Colleen: "Enough to know that I am proud of you for opening up to him. Come on. Let's go eat. I ordered you something I know you will like."

Polly nods, picks her head up off her shoulder, and walks with Colleen back into the restaurant, and back to their assigned table where their dinners are waiting for them.

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31, 2024**

**Breaking The Ice**

A round of punches are landing on a punching bag in a local gym here in Charlotte, courtesy of the woman on the SCW roster that has definitely been dealing with the most crap away from the

wrestling ring. Every punch from Polly looks to have meaning. Every punch looks to have anger. With every punch she has thrown, she has had her heart into it. After she lets loose with a few more heavy hitting punches that would definitely make Colleen proud of her, she takes a break. She looks around the facility and there are only a few other gym-goers. Today, Colleen and Aisling are not in attendance with her. Today she is going it alone. Her attire? A pair of gray booty shorts and a matching gray strapless top. There is a good deal of sweat coming from off her brow, showing that she has been working very hard, trying to put aside all of her problems for long enough to go for what she has wanted for a long time.

She breathes heavily for a bit before she closes her eyes and does her best to relax herself. When she opens her eyes back up she goes to her purse which she has kept in her possession the whole time she has been here. She pulls out her phone and first checks for any messages. The only one is from Colleen, telling her that she and Aisling would return to the gym a little bit later than what they had originally thought. Polly responds to Colleen's text with a simple "Okay thank you" before she swipes away her text message screen. She then heads for her Twitch account, logs in, thinks for a moment, before deciding to personally vlog for the first time in quite some time. She also opens up the chat box and looks at it, just waiting for comments to start flowing in, but they don't until she presses the record button. Upon her being on camera is when her devoted Twitch followers begin to post to her, mostly about the guys asking her if she is working out and about how hot they think she is. Polly shakes off most of the comments and does break her silence.

Polly: "Hey. I know it's been a while. It's just that my life has been almost nothing but a downward spiral over the past year. I am not going to go into the details as I choose not to let you in on all of my nightmares. Instead what I am going to do is let you all know that today, well, I guess I'm okay. I guess I need to try and be as positive as possible and focus on the road ahead."

"That road ahead, the next stop I have on it is a one-on-one chance for the SCW United States Championship. Yes, I know I had a chance in the Elimination Chamber back at Under Attack, but I was distracted by Katie Steward. It was after I eliminated Katie that our champion Deanna swooped in, took advantage, and walked away still the United States Champion on that night. This time Katie will not be a distraction as she has seemed to turn her attention to the tag team division, tagging alongside Gigi, hoping to relive the good ole days of Team Desire. If they succeed, that's great for them and I won't take anything away from them."

"But as for me? I am sick and tired of getting things taken away from me. Now do I blame Deanna Frost? No, I don't. It wasn't her fault. She did what she had to do to walk out the champion last time. I'm not going to drag her name through the mud just because I came up short. In fact, it was that night that she woke me up to the fact that I have had to deal with coming up short a lot when it matters most. Your message was delivered loud and clear Deanna, and while you knew that you would have to deal with my heart and passion that night, you were able to overcome me because my focus was elsewhere. Tomorrow night, right here in the Queen City, my focus will be in one place, one person, that being you. That SCW United

States Championship belt that you are holding I have been chasing for far too long, and I am going on record right now and saying that tomorrow night will be a LOT different from the other times I have tried to become a champion here in SCW. Most of the other times I was just happy to get the opportunity. This time around Deanna I am NOT happy to be here. No. This time around I NEED to be here and I know I NEED to put my very best out there if I want to finally have a success story in my life. I have had far too many dark days, as evidenced with my dealings with a certain female that thanks to Colleen will never get her own SCW contract. But even though she was denied that, she has still gotten into my head and has burrowed there. I was not myself when I tossed Alexis Quinne off that scaffold. I was not myself when I went after Sarah Wolf. But here's the thing. I am willing to accept responsibility for my actions. I went out there at Body, Heart and Soul and took down Sarah Wolf. I will deal with Alexis Quinne face to face when she returns. But right now, tomorrow night, my responsibility is to dig deep down inside myself and show the entire world the champion that I have been in the past and can be NOW."

Polly stops, gets down on her knees, and props her cell phone up against the nearest wall. She then gets into sit-up position and completes a set of 20 sit-ups. Even though she is panting from her workout when she sits up after the last one, she lets more of her thoughts be known.

Polly: "I know I have what it takes, but I also know that at any moment Marissa could get inside my head. If that happens Deanna, that is truly when I am at my most dangerous as even I won't know what I might become capable of. The world did see a taste of that at Body, Heart and Soul. But even I fear what I might do if she gets to me again."

"Even if she doesn't, with the way I feel right now Deanna, I have a LOT more than you to prove. You have been sitting on top of the United States Title Mountain for quite some time now and I guess deservedly so. But what happened to you recently at the End of Year Special begs to question if you can keep going on like this. Don't get me wrong, I admire your fighting spirit as I have the same spirit when my head is on right. You know that and your wife Selena knows that too."

"I know you were hurt in that clash against Asher, but it sounds like you are all healed up and ready for me. I really do hope that is the case Deanna because I WANT you at full throttle tomorrow night. I will be casting all of my issues aside, and I'm hoping you can do the same as well on your side. As much as your wife hears the boos, and she has actually done something to deserve them, I know that you are different then her. At least I hope you are."

Polly sighs. She places her hands firmly against the floor, which causes her tense shoulders to rise some.

Polly: "But tomorrow night is not about a lot of what I just mentioned. It's not about Selena. It's not about Sarah. It's not about Alexis. It's not even about Marissa getting into my head. Tomorrow night Deanna is about the two of us and no one else. You are right about something. In the past I have made a lot of excuses, but I'm not going to make any tomorrow night. I know



you aren't expecting that at all because you, much like almost everybody else, think I will just be the same old Polly Playtime. Newsflash Deanna. Polly Playtime is dead. For some time now the few people that have approached me backstage have told me that I should be myself, including my own teammate, no scratch that, my best friend Colleen. So that is what I am going to be, Marissa Swanson in my head or no Marissa Swanson in my head. I'm ready to shed any past cloaks on myself. Tomorrow night and going forward I am going to share the real me with the world. My last name is Pingotti and it is absolutely NOTHING to be ashamed of. I loved my dad very much. He taught me a lot, but one thing he didn't teach me was that I would eventually have to grow up and become my own woman. I have had to learn that one all on my own. I have been through so much, and unfortunately I feel I will have to go through so much more. So I guess I will just have to roll with the punches. It's the only way that I will be able to get what I want."

"Tomorrow night Deanna, that is what I will do. I will show you and the rest of my critics out there that I do indeed have more heart than you. Yeah, while you had to go through healing up a knee injury, it's nothing compared to what I have had to face. It's not like you have had to go through the traumatic psychological pain that I have had to endure. Yet here I am, wearing my heart on my sleeve and DEFINITELY ready to take that United States Championship from you!"

"As much as you have kept fighting throughout your career to get to this point, you need to realize that I have been fighting, scratching, and clawing too to earn my rightful place here. Unlike last time in the Elimination Chamber, I knew I was dealing with five very willing and able and tough competitors, so I knew I was potentially in for a rough night. Yet still I fought my way to you. This time around though the spotlight is on just the two of us. And Deanna, I KNOW that I am capable of becoming the next SCW United States Champion. It is not a matter of IF I take that championship. It is a matter of WHEN. You know it. Selena knows it. Everyone else around us knows it. Will tomorrow night be it? I'll tell you this. Look into my eyes right now Deanna."

Polly pauses and moves up really close to her phone, focusing it on her green eyes.

Polly: "If you don't bring your best against me, it will be. No games. I am being and will be exactly what I need to be. Serious, focused, able, ready. The true beating heart of SCW is alive and well, and it's not inside you Deanna. It's inside ME. This true beating heart is about to finally break the ice that has been around me for far too long."

Polly gently pounds her left hand against her chest a few times before she ends her Twitch feed. She doesn't even bother to read the chat box but instead logs off, clearly wanting to fully focus on what is directly ahead of her tomorrow night, and not what is behind her or what could be waiting for her.