

Holly could barely contain her excitement as she stepped into the familiar soundstage, walking around the backstage area that she had once grown accustomed to. She couldn't believe she was finally back. The Network had told her that she should head to the old Holly Adams Soundstage as she'd be partaking in an interview session here, but she knew that this was their special way of rewarding her for winning her trial, by giving her her old stage back, her old set, and most importantly, her old audience.

Since the debacle at the Hart-Turner wedding, Holly had slowly lost everything that she had grown to know and love and by that she meant her business, her money, her home, her jet, her tchotchkes, but she was hoping to put that mess all behind her. This was her making her way back into the hearts of everyone around the world and becoming that household name again that wasn't associated with a gross act by a destitute man.

This was her starting point, she couldn't even begin to describe how happy she was. She was getting a big interview and the Network said it would air during her own timeslot!

***"Daddy! It's been so long!"** Holly stopped dead in her tracks at the first syllable of daddy. Apparently there was one thing she had forgotten about since her show downsized. One person in particular.*

"So glad we get to work together again today!"

Work together?! Holly thought to herself, that is the last thing she'd expect from the Network if they were trying to give her some type of reward for overcoming all of this adversity she's had to face over the last few months.

***"...oh, cool, yeah...it's going to be a great time..."** Jason nods to Holly, smiling largely. He looks like he missed her, she couldn't say the feeling was all that mutual, but hey, maybe it'll return some sense of normalcy for her. Maybe this will be a blessing in disguise for her, something to catapult her back into the public's good graces. Only time would tell on that part.*

***"It's going to be a great show, can't wait for the interview! I'll see you out there!"** Jason says happily as he walks away. Holly rolls her eyes as soon as his back is turned and she heads over to the wardrobe and the makeup department. She wants to make sure that for the return of her show, that everything is perfect, down to the last tendril of blonde hair cascading down her back.*

After about an hour, her makeup and hair were done and she was just getting zipped into her dress. For her first show back, she decided on wearing a simple black halter dress that cut off around her mid-thigh, deciding to go a bit more conservative for her first show back. She didn't want to risk ruffling any feathers.

Holly takes one last quick look in the mirror, thinking of how great she looks and how great this show was going to be. She takes a deep breath as she walks up to the curtains at the edge of the stage and she can hear Jason Singer warming up the audience for her.

“You can do this, Holly. You’ve got this. You’ve done this a thousand times now,” she takes another deep breath as the stage hand gives her her cue to head out, ready to take on the world.



“Lay-daddies and gentledudes, welcome to another episode of the Jason Singer Hour! The newest, hit talk-show! I’m your head daddy in charge, Jason Singer!” The crowd goes wild for their host, who is seated center stage in what looks like a newer version of Holly’s old host’s chair. The former “co-hosts couch,” that Holly had installed so she could cut Jason out of frame, is no longer next to Jason, but rather a couple of plush looking chairs for guests to sit in.

Speaking of guests, however, the camera pans over to Holly who is already seated in one of the chairs to Jason’s left. She looks like she just had a mental breakdown, staring listlessly ahead at the camera. Not sure if she is currently relapsing or perhaps she hit her head backstage.

The JASON SINGER HOUR??!?!? She internally screams to herself. This is what the network wanted her here for? She won her case and they booked her on the show that REPLACED her show in the same time slot? Did they just want her here for the first sit down interview since her trial ended? Did they want to plug Rise to Greatness? Holly wasn't sure, but she also wasn't sure if she was still on planet earth.

“My dudes and dudettes, we have a great show for you today! First, we have my former co-host here for a sit down interview, her first since she won her trial a week ago, and she's also booked to appear at the biggest event for Supreme Championship Wrestling this weekend, Rise to Greatness!” Holly hadn't noticed, but Jason's crowd was alive, and it was only when they started cheering for him did she realize that they were alive and not remote controlled. Her eyes begin to look a little glazed over as Jason continues to talk about the show and what was to come.

Where was the hot gossip section, where was the part where he talked poorly about Holly's co-workers, where was the time dedicated to the Holly Adams Hour Band? What alternate reality did Holly step into this weekend?

“Now, Holl-daddy, I wanted to thank you for taking the time out of your busy schedule to sit down with me today. It's a huge honor, it always has been,” Holly's mouth feels dry, she looks to Jason who is looking back at her eagerly. She hadn't really noticed before, but he's gotten a haircut, his beard has been manicured, and he still looks at her like she's the sun. *Maybe this wouldn't be so bad?*

“Hi...hey, Jason...yeah, thanks for having me...” Holly's synapses are still operating on a five second delay apparently, as her first sentence sounded like she just learned to speak ten minutes ago.

“So, it's been awhile since we've seen each other, daddy, and I must admit, I really did miss you,” Jason says, hamming it up for the audience. Holly wasn't sure if he was serious, but she did notice that at the end of their run together on the Holly Adams Hour, he did look a bit like a lost puppy anytime she walked on stage, wanting her attention and affection. She was probably just imagining things, but some of the stagehands did say they thought he had a crush on her.

“That it has been, Jason. You know, I've had to shy away from the public eye for a little bit, especially because of the trial and then what happened at the wedding, it's been a rough time for me,” Jason nods in understanding, actually paying attention to Holly. She was shocked because when she had guests on her show, she usually talked about herself, rather than asking them questions. Was Jason a better host than her? Preposterous, people loved her, but he wasn't doing that bad of a job either.

“That makes total sense, bro, but I'm glad that you're finally on the other side of things, if that makes sense?” It didn't, but Holly nodded anyway.

“We only saw clips of your trial because of commercial breaks and what not, so what was the outcome, just a straight up “not guilty,” verdict?”

“That’s right, though the court did have some judgments handed down for me. While they found me “Not Guilty,” on all of those bogus charges they ordered that I still have to attend sensitivity training and do community service to prove that I do feel bad about what happened, but other than, scotch free!” Jason again nods, taking in what Holly is saying and really hearing it.

“Well, I’m glad to hear that. I wanted to pivot, daddy, to talk a little bit about the Real Housewives, I saw that Candi recently gave birth to Cidnay Two. Have you been to visit the newborn and happy couple yet?” Holly had heard that Candi had given birth to a child who was not the same color as Cidnay and to Holly, that just made sense in a cosmic sort of way.

“I haven’t yet, but Candi and I really haven’t been on speaking terms as of late anyways, but I wish the happy couple all the best and no ill will. I’m so happy that they were able to have this child together,” Jason nods again, flipping through his cue cards and working towards the next questions.

“There is some controversy about the child, of course, because well...Cidnay isn’t black, and the child is, what’re your thoughts?”

“Oh my goodness, is that so?! I had zero idea about that! If you ask me, though, it’s probably just some sort of karmic justice for how he’s been acting at work lately, so you know, maybe this is just someone out there looking out for me,” Holly states plainly, Jason looks at her a bit confused.

“That is a good segue, I guess, daddy, into my next question, you have a big match with Cidnay at Rise to Greatness this weekend, why do you think having a child that doesn’t match his skin tone is karmic justice?”

“Well, I’m going to go out on a limb here and say that the child isn’t his, Jason. Now, obviously we can’t rule out the possibility that this is some sort of once in a trillion birth thing, but I don’t think Candi and Cidnay are that lucky. So, in a way, this is just Cidnay getting his just desserts for stabbing me in the back, he got stabbed in his back by the woman he loves.”

“Don’t you think it’s a little insensitive to assume that Candi cheated on Cidnay, especially at this time?”

“Please, Cidnay and Candi were instrumental in the downfall of my business, but Cidnay has been instrumental in so much more going wrong this year for me,” Jason looks like

he's deep in thought after Holly's retort, but he invites her to continue, asking "what else did he do?"

"Jason, what didn't he do? The End of the Year Special when I had Selena on the ropes, the title within my grasp, what did he do? He sent down that blundering idiot cam girl to get involved and she cost me the whole damn match."

"Well, you did *win* the match technically, daddy."

"Yeah, and? Then I got my rematch the following month, and what happened? Oh, Cidnay was nowhere to be found while the witness protection sisters and a crazed Starbucks barista got involved. Not to mention Selena's child bride who was at ringside yelling obscenities at me for no reason."

"True, but at least Cidnay tried to rectify the situation by bringing Datura on board with the *Brand* didn't he?"

"How is inviting that bag of wrist slits into the Brand going to help us? When she wasn't busy being a thorn in my side all of 2021, she was busy interfering on the behalf of our awful world champion to stop me from becoming the greatest World Champion ever?"
Jason again nods at Holly, taking a deep breath and moving to his next cue card.

"Why do you think this match came about, then? Was this just the logical course of events for you and Cidnay, to eventually collide, daddy?"

"I thought we'd see this through to the end, I mean, when I first started A/C Blondetourage Unit last March, Cidnay had come back, he was an obscure name from the early 'ots that had held the World Title, then lost it, and quit. Then he came back to become best friends with a man who makes my pussy drier than the Sahara? It just didn't make sense to me, which is why they were the perfect clients for Life Coaching."

"Fast forward, Cidnay, who shouldn't have amounted to much considering he's basically crippled at this point, managed to become my star pupil. He pulled out all of the stops, made 2021 the Year of Cidnay only to squander everything by losing to Selena."

"But didn't you lose to Selena, twice this year?"

"I had nothing to lose, Cidnay lost the World Title twice to her. I tried my best to get it back for the Brand, but it was not meant to be. But that isn't the point I'm trying to make here, Jason. My point is that I made Cidnay one of the greatest success stories here in SCW and could he even bother to thank me? No."

"But there had to be good times, right? Like you're undefeated as a unit I'm sure where Cidnay comes from, a simple thank you would have sufficed for the *good* things he had done for the Brand."

“Jason, where *Cidnay* comes from, people bathe in the river and use pinecones for money. I truly don’t think the “good things” he did for the Brand compared to the bad things he has done for the Brand. Everyone will forget all the good you’ve done in the world because of a couple of bad incidents, this is why we had to place *Cidnay* on the performance improvement plan.”

“You believe there are other instances of him needing this Performance Plan, as you say? I thought he quit the Brand?”

“He *thinks* he quit the Brand, Jason, but the Brand is more than a job, it’s a lifestyle. You can’t just walk away from the Holly Adams Brand, trademarked, and think that there isn’t going to be repercussions.”

“Such as what?”

“Jason, I took someone who looked like they came from a subterranean bunker society that worships an unexploded warhead and made him a household name, someone to care about. He turned his back on all of that, and I just don’t think he realizes all that we’ve done for him, all the good that has been done.”

“Do you think that maybe he just needed a break or there was finally something that made him think this wasn’t what was best for him?”

“Well, things started going down hill the second he proposed to Candi.”

“What makes you think that?”

“Because it never sounded like he was in love, he sounded like he had been kidnapped by the Taliban and was begging for release. Before the whole marriage fiasco, he had been a happy member of *The Brand*. He even had his own little slice of The Brand in The Positive State. He managed to make that niche for himself and fill it. Then, he got involved with the cult, tried to procreate with the disgusting ginger child bride, and then moved onto Candi. People accuse me of not caring or not paying attention, but his actions worried me.”

“I want to move on daddy, now you have this headline match at Rise to Greatness, and one of the paramount things you’ve said about *Cidnay* is that “his aptitude to do what’s right, is completely eclipsed by his ability to screw everything up,” what do you mean by that?”

“Jason, he managed to get himself a cute little Adrenaline Title reign this year, and heading into Rise to Greatness, and right before our match was booked, he managed to lose it to Autumn Valentine. Someone who the Brand has made a fool of more than once

this year, and he just couldn't be bothered to not let himself look like a fool one more time before stepping into the ring with me."

"How has he made himself look like a fool?"

"How hasn't he? From being Selena's whipping boy, to Candi's mangina husband, to now losing to Autumn, it's just nonsense after nonsense. When Joseph and the Technicolor Dreamcoat can hang onto a title longer than you, then you should rethink your in ring career. I just need Cidnay to realize that he was better with us than he will be against us."

"That's what this whole thing is about at Rise to Greatness, it's going to be a send off for Cidnay in the best possible way."

"**Cidnay,**" Holly says, turning from Jason and now towards the camera, "**please allow me to do you this one last favor, my last as your Life Coach,**" Jason says to Holly that that is a powerful statement, before moving along to close out the interview. He thanks Holly for her time and plugs the Real Housewives, telling everyone to tune in and then to also watch the Holly Adams Hour which airs after the Chinese Prayer Breakfast at 2:00am PST on MyTV before re-runs of Svengoolie.

The pair continue to talk amongst each other as the band kicks off and sends the show to commercial break.