

An Unexpected Friendship

Written By: Danae

As Lena walked next to William in the park, she wasn't sure what she was doing there. She had originally come to CatCo to take Kara out to lunch, but she wasn't there because she had to leave for an interview. Lena had planned to go back to her lab, but then William offered to share his sandwiches with her. She wanted to decline, but then something in his eyes made her decide to take him up on his offer.

They were mostly silent, as they both didn't quite know what to talk about. She took another bite from William's white bread with Nutella sandwich. She remembered how her birth mother loved making these, though Lena was scoffed at for even suggesting it in the Luthor household. *"The lack of fiber is appalling and the amount of sugar is a nightmare."* Lillian had said to her. *"Please go back to eating your unsweetened oatmeal."* God, being five years old was the worst.

The only thing that brought her comfort then was her horse, Starlight. On free afternoons, she loved taking off with Starlight to the forest. Some lonely nights she convinced herself that the next day she would let Starlight take her far away from the Luthors and never come back. But when the morning would come, she backed out, never being brave enough to actually go through with it. When she would have to face Lillian after that, oatmeal would be the last thing she'd have to worry about.

As she was pondering about her lonely childhood, she heard a familiar crunching beside her. Looking to her right, she saw William devouring an apple. But not by eating around the core like any human did, instead he was just stuffing the entire fruit in his mouth the way she'd only ever seen Starlight eat an apple. And as the sun was shining on his face she started to see the slight defects in the image. Slight miscalculations that no one would recognize but Lena, since the face was created by her own technology. William was a horse wearing an image inducer? Was that why his eyes felt so amicable?

"I suppose it makes sense that the image inducer would work better on a human-like face like a Coluan than a horse," Lena thought out loud before she could stop herself. Shocked, she looked at William, but he just gave her a soft smile.

"I shouldn't be surprised you figured it out, Miss Luthor," William chuckled.

"I would really prefer it if you'd call me Lena, William."

“Well, now that you’ve gotten to know me better than anyone else, I’d prefer it if you’d call me Comet.” And looking around to see that no one was paying attention to them, he took off his image inducer to reveal a majestic horse.

As she stared at him, Lena realized that, just like when she used to clean out Starlight’s stall, she just got herself into some crazy horseshit.