



## CHAPTER 4

### ONE AFTERNOON WITH THE GRANDMAS

They caught of the hand walked to quick step. Edu couldn't believe it. At the last minute his Laura sister had failed him for that she had a date with a "fellow". Now he was expecting from the answer of his neighbours. He hoped them to say yes, because it was not question of coming at the date with his Paco son. His thoughts were interrupted for the voice of Paco that he said:

–Dad, wait, doesn't run.

–I'm sorry, but I am late to the date with María.

–Doesn't it be called Isabel?

–It's true! Thanks, friend –he said smiling his son.

He lifted up the head and he saw it.

–Look at Paco, that is the grandmas' house.

–That house pink? –he said with face of astonishment– I refuse to go to that pink house, with those boring grandmothers.

–Nonsense!, don't say that, for sure you have a good time. They are very pleasant ladies. Yet you don't know them like in order to say to they are boring.

–None funny grandmother lives at a pink house. I don't want to go. NO, NO and NO.

–Paquito, nice, please, tell me yes –he said with face of anguish– I propose one pact to you: If you are with them today, the next week we will go to the bikes exhibition.

–I don't believe you, for sure you will make an appointment with another María.

–I promise you that we will go. No María neither Isabeles in five kilometres to the round.



–Really?–he said built up hopes– And will we go to the movies?

–Of course. We will see the film that you want, and we will dine where your also wants.

–Well, I accept to go to that house. But... you have promised it –he said with serious face– If you don't fulfill your word –he said with one handshake– that it fall you to bit.

–OK Well, Come on! I'm not on time –he said beginning again to walk.

They to quick step arrived until the old ladies' house. They knocked and after awaiting the door about second it was opened for a rather anxious Paloma.



–What happen Edu? –she asked nervous and with excitement face.

–Well... I need that somebody takes care Paco, since I have one important date.

–Ahh –Paloma said without stopping seeing toward inside the house from the door –I expect to be lucky and you find to somebody..



And without more, she closed the doors in the face of an astonished Edu.

–I don't think to enter in this house with that .

–I'll knock again –Edu interrupted him.

The door was opened again, and in front of them thwarted Paloma appeared.

–All right –Paloma said seizing Paco of the

arm and dragging him inside the house– You return at night to pick up him.

Edu saw with face of astonishment like his son I was dragged to the interior of the house while his son screamed him: "To bit" and the door closed in the face of him . He watched his clock and he went out running bound for his date. He knew that, although grumpy, she would look after very well of Paco.

Inside the house Paloma, that seized Paco still, sat down quickly in the sofa of the living.

–Catch!! –She angry looking at the TV fixedly– Now I will have to await to the advertisings announcements finish.

–Lady...



–Listen to, boy –the grandma Paloma said with the eyes send out of orbit and showing the teeth– I am seeing "Love in the prison" and, in the next quarter of hour, I don't want you to hear speak, nor move.–and she said in a hiss– not even breathe.

–Mister, yes Mister!! –Paco joked.

His laugh vanished suddenly when he saw the grandmother make the expression of cutting the neck with the forefinger. He understood that I should be quiet if he wanted to continue lives. All calmed down when soap opera began. Paloma was hypnotised and Paco strolled for the house without knowing that make. Outside the noise of a bike was heard that it approached.



Suddenly the door of the kitchen opened up smoothly and a lady with a leather suit entered stealthily. She opened the refrigerator more stealthily still and she began to drink a beer.

–Aaaaaah! How delicious! –Marga delighted ignoring that she was observed by Paco.



–What do you drink? –the question of Paco almost she made it to choke.

–¡Uys, what fright! Shit!... almost I suffocate!  
–Marga complained while she bent down to see to the young –Another child? Lately this house seems a nursery. Also he is inquisitive like all, of course.

Later, she said to the boy:

—Juice of barley. And... you who are?

–I'm Paco, Edu's son.

–Well, what good! –without saying more, she entered like a hurricane in the living room and she put on before the television.

–Let's see, Paloma... Who is this creature?



–¡AAAAAGH! –Paloma began to scream.

–¡Uys, pretty! You have circulation problems, you are putting purple... ¡Baby, be going to give you an attack!... React, shit!...

Suddenly a tune announced the end of chapter. Paloma was furious.

–I kill you! You have done that I don't see the kiss –she said extending her hands toward the neck of Marga.

–If you get angry for that reason I give you it.

Paloma's face was white, and her anger went in increase while she said:

–Like you have thought of put your enooooooooooooormous ass before the TV!!

Marga tried to tranquilize her, although she could hardly hide the laugh.



–Baby, you are frightening the boy –suddenly her laugh stopped– Excuse me what do you have said from my ass? Because my ass isn't enormous... powerful yes, but enormous, not.

Without paying attention to the bellows of her flatmate, Marga said to the boy

–Tell me, Paco Do I have the enormous ass

how does the goat say this?

Paco observed the scene sheltered behind the sofa. Because of the question of Marga and perceiving the anger of Paloma he opted for shrinking of shoulders.



–Don't get scared, lad. This finishes soon. Exactly... –she said seeing her clock– half minute: Now "Rubi Topaz of the White Mine" begin. You calm and you will see that soon passes her.

While, Paloma continued screaming atrocities, although the tone of voice went lowering progressively until being a murmur that silenced when the music of the following Soap Opera begins.

–Do you see it? We are going to have a snack to the kitchen Here we won't speak –she said indicating with the head to Paloma that was throwing them murderous looks already– Don't worry, we go now. You stay with your Ruby.

–Is she always like this? –Paco asked.

–No, only when she sees the soap opera. Well, what could we make?, It is a bad habit that has. We are going to eat something, the screams give me hunger.

And she served some strawberry pastries that Paloma had made in the morning.

–Do you like the pastries?



–Yes, those I like much –Paco said while he smiled more and more thoroughly.

–That do you laugh? If I could know it, of course.

–I was boring me a a lot of. But you have arrived and I am enjoying much with you.

–That happens to many men... –Marga responded smiling.

–What?



–Nothing, lad, jeje. That you are also very pleasant, as me. Do you have seen the anger of Paloma?

–Will she be much mad time?

–Noooo, silly. In fact, Paloma is very good Although I believe that of seeing so much soap opera she has distorted the vision: Does she have

said that do I have the enormous ass? You that think?

–Well... enormous, enormous not: Only a little enormous... well, big... rather, medium –he said when he saw that Marga began to change the expression.– Almost small, hey?

–Do you see? What did I say? Paloma has to go to the oculist.

But she left the pastry, at half eat, above the table.



“Catch! The boy has ruined me the snack” – Marga thought.

–Why do Paloma like those novels?– Paco asked.

– Because she is a romantic. What she needs is a good boyfriend and a loving date..

–¿A date? Like my father? That is a real bore. He has left me alone because he had to celebrate saint I don't know what.

–Saint Valentine, that he is the "friend of the lovers" –Marga explained.

–And that who is he? Any famous singer?



–No. San Valentín lived many years ago.

–Do you know his history? –In the look of Paco there was curiosity..

–Of course... I will tell you it. We have time, while Paloma finishes seeing her soap opera..

## ***SAINT VALENTINE LEGEND***

*It was the year 270 AD. Rome is in full decadence and all help is little in order to avoid the Empire to crumble..*



*The emperor Claudio III begin to think that the married men render less because they are tied to their families, and that the single are better soldiers. Therefore, he prohibits the marriage.*

*Of course, the news is bad reception among the couples of lovers.*

*Valentine, a Christian bishop, decides to complain his way: he incites the youth lovers to go to him secretly in order to unite in marriage*

*When Claudio discovers him detain to Valentine and he tries to convince him so that he abandons to the Christianity and he renounce to marry the young couples.*

*As he don't get it, he order that they beat him, they ston him and he finally is executed February 14.*



*During the time in the jail, his jailer asked him that I give classes to his Julia daughter, that she was blind of birth.*

*Based on lessons and hours together, Valentine fell in love with Julia and tells that he even made that she recover her sighted miraculously.*

*The eve of his execution, he sent a note of farewell to the girl in which he signed with the words "of your Valentine".*

*Julia planted an almond tree of rosy flowers next to his tomb.*



*For that reason the youth of today send letters of love every 14 February to win the heart of the girls that they want. Also they send flowers or poems of love.*

*And the almond tree has become the symbol of the love and durable friendship.*

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For that reason, your father want to celebrate this day with his love –Marga ended her story.– And you shouldn't get angry with he because he fall in love, or you will look like the Claudio that.

Later, Marga caught another pastry of the table, she sighed and she said:

–Paco, love is the best that there is this world and also... Free!..



Marga smiled winking an eye to Paco.

–You are right, when my father arrives I will ask for forgiveness him. Well... better after the dinner that he promised me, jeje

Marga smiled stirring him the hair.

–Well! and he seems such a nice little boy!

–Won't you get angry if do I tell you a thing?

–Of course

–For sure not? –the boy insisted looking at Marga.

–¡That nooooo! You release for that mouth – she said bending down in order to put on to his height.

–Although Paloma is thin and you are fat, you are a lot more amusing – Paco said very solemn.

–Thanks, handsome –Marga smiled

While she weighed up if continue stirring him the hair or give him a tug, Marga thought:



"This boy is prize idiot... the obesity again."

Later without meditating it much, she said:

–Well... so that you see, I am going to be on a diet, although I am very sure that I don't weigh one gram of more.

–I bet you wouldn't dare!! –Paloma's voice sounded astonished.

–Where do you appear? Always you like to spy behind the doors?

–I couldn't believe what you have just said – Paloma insists

–What not?? –Marga answered with more decision than before– in a month's time we talk about it.

But that is another story, that another day I will tell, if you want, of course.

