

R.I.P. Caleb

"Ben's Brother"

Ben dialed a number into the comms screen in the basement of his new house. He hadn't been keen on using the number before. From the way Lord Daryil had handed it to him on a slip of paper, Ben was sure he would try to seduce him again if he ever used it. But, this was too important to hesitate.

Daryil appeared on the screen. Sure enough, he was reclining on a red satin sheet-covered bed, surrounded by rose petals and wearing only a collar and an extremely tight pair of well-polished black latex pants that weren't even buttoned. Only a hip-wing spared Ben from seeing too much. Ben's gaze snapped to the side and his normally blue-and-black ears blushed pink.

Daryil grinned seductively and spoke in a soft voice. "Well hel-*lo* there Ben. *So* nice to see you again. Have you reconsidered my offer?"

"S-sorry, Milord. I still don't think I'm ready to 'give it a try' just yet."

Daryil sighed, but didn't look terribly disappointed. "Ah well, it was worth a shot. Well then, why *are* you calling?"

Ben's face fell. "Actually, something has happened that I've been wanting to talk to you about. There's been... a death in my family."

Daryil shot up into a sitting position, his headwings fluffed out and rose petals flying. "Not little Mikey!"

"What? Oh, *heck* no. Mike is just fine, thank goodness." Ben struggled to look at Daryil. "It's my brother. His heart finally up and stopped last week."

Daryil let out a sigh of relief. "So, you want an android body for him, I presume?"

"If it's not too much to ask..." Ben finally looked at Daryil and began to ramble. "I mean, you've already done *so* much for me and I don't want to bother you for anything more but it would mean so much to me and my..."

Daryil held up a hand. "Ben. *Relax*. I owe you more than you realize for giving my daughter a loving husband and giving me a new son. I would be happy to give your brother a new body. Of course, we'll have to run it by the Being-Creature Commission first, and... Unfortunately, we can't just *give away* android bodies anymore..."

Ben waved his hand dismissively. "I'm not worried about that. He's got two parents and three siblings who would be *more* than happy to help him pay for it. Heck, I bet even my mom's parents would help. I'm more worried that *you* might not *want* to bring him back."

Daryil looked affronted. "Why wouldn't I want to bring him back? At the baby shower, he seemed like a perfectly amicable guy! And besides..." he continued, his seductive grin returning. "He's kinda cute..."

Ben's expression turned into his trademark sly grin. "My brother wanted to be a *marine biologist*."

END