

Prompt – written by Kasi Jay and published with her blessings in a hope that the material can be of educational value.

Prompt: {A package arrives at your character’s house, but they didn’t order anything. Write about what happens next.}

It was the middle of the day on a Saturday afternoon. I sat on the couch, stretching my feet on the chaise. It was my favorite place to sit. I grabbed the remote and turned on the tv. Netflix always seemed to have something I’d enjoy watching. Something caught my eye as I sifted through selections.

*Ooh, this looks good.*

Just as the trailer ended, there was a notification on my phone. My Ring Doorbell sensed movement, spamming my phone with its crappy motion detection. I ignored it, throwing it on the end table and pressed play, eager to watch the movie but my phone would not relent. An unusual flurry of notifications, one after the other lit up the screen.

I turned my attention back to the show I was about to watch. The trailer had me wanting to watch the movie now. But then my notifications went off again, alerting me to movement outside my door again.

I grabbed the phone, pressing my fingerprint into the biometric to see what all the notifications were about. There was a man dropping boxes at my door. He rang the bell once before walking away.

*It had to have been a mistake, I didn't order anything.*

Throwing my phone onto the couch, I rushed to open the front door, only to see him pulling off, waving as he drove away.

My eyes inspected the two parcels. One a bit bigger than the other. There were no return addresses on either of them. Actually, there was no other information on it except for my name and address.

I questioned where the boxes came from but brushed off the thought before taking them inside, placing them on the kitchen island. For a while, I eyed them with suspicion. Wondering if I should open them or call the cops. Paranoid thoughts swirled around my head.

*What if they explode?*

*What if there's that powder stuff in it that makes people sick? Anthrax!*

Too many “what ifs” deterred me momentarily from opening the packages.

“This isn't a movie, Kataliah. I don't have any enemies.” I reasoned with myself, opening the kitchen drawer closest to me and grabbing a knife. Slowly, I slid the blade along the center of the bigger box, listening to it tear through the tape. I took a deep breath and flipped it open. Both nervous and excited. I'd never received a secret gift before.

Slowly, I pulled the white paper from the box. My eyes went wide with excitement, forgetting all the paranoid feelings I just went through. It was something I'd wanted but hesitated on getting. Unsure if I had the green thumb gene and experience to take care of it. I read the card aloud, to be 100% sure.

"Haworthia Obtusa Crystal Light Blue Transparent Succulent Plant." That was more of a mouthful to say than I thought. But who sent it and how did they know? I hadn't told anyone about wanting it.

I picked up my phone, searching how to accurately care for this plant on Google and YouTube, determined not to let this one die like many of the others. Completely forgetting about the smaller box that accompanied it.

"Where's a good place to put you?" I asked the plant, like it could actually respond back. Then again, I always talked to myself out loud anyway.

"How about..." I paused, looking around the shared living room/dining room area. My U-shaped couch took up a good portion of the space, leaving me with little options. I looked over to the table, shaking my head side to side at the thought. Definitely didn't want it where I ate.

"The bookshelf." I smiled, walking over and placing it at the very top since it was empty, giving the plant all the space to itself. Watering it would be easy and the sunlight could reach it. So that was another plus.

Sitting on the couch, I resumed the movie, ever so often looking at the plant as if it were going to disappear. Still wondering who could have sent it.

About an hour later, I felt hungry. Pressing pause, I stretched and yawned, strolling back into the kitchen and spotted the little box I'd previously put there.

"I forgot about you." I smiled as I opened it. Not prepared for what was inside.

"Enchantment gift box? From Aphrodite's? Who the hell...?" I gave a quick glance around to see if there were any hidden cameras or things out of place.

How was it that these two gifts were some of the same things I said I was going to get myself? I, for damn sure, know I didn't order it. Not yet at least.

As a just in case, I grabbed my phone and checked my accounts for the purchases, and as I thought, there were none. Well, none outside of the ordinary.

Tugging gently, the elegantly tied ribbon at the top of the purple box unravelled. A wide smile spread across my face. It was my favorite color. I was genuinely excited to see what it held. The box opened like a card, inscriptions were written on each side.

On the left it read, *Behold Enchantment* and on the right *Magic Lies Within*.

I bit my lip and the excitement I felt rose.